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TWELVE PAGES - ONE RIAL

U.S. committed to Israeli aid

Carter against Palestine state

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26 (R) — President Jimmy Carter said he was opposed to an independent Palestinian state and would not recognize or negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) unless it conceded Israel's right to exist.

An independent Palestinian state would be a destabilizing factor in the Middle East and many Arab leaders shared this view, he said.

Carter also called for an end to acts of violence against Israel and said the United States remained committed to providing military and financial aid to Israel to help it preserve its security and its ability to defend itself.

The president restated his policy to the United Jewish Appeal Young Leadership Conference. He also said that the exchange of the first Egyptian and Israeli ambassadors was the realization of a long-held dream.

The president expressed the hope that new talks between U.S., Egyptian and Israeli officials in The Hague this week would lead to progress in negotiations for autonomy for the Palestinians on the Jordan West Bank and in the Gaza Strip.

The talks in The Hague from Wednesday to Friday are to be conducted by U.S. Middle East negotiator Sol Linowitz.

Egyptian Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil and Israeli negotiator Yosef Burg.

Carter said U.S. goals in the talks were to make progress towards autonomy for the Palestinians and enable them to participate in the determination of their own future, and to preserve Israel's legitimate security needs.

Egypt in earlier negotiations rejected an Israeli plan for limited autonomy for the Palestinians on the West Bank and in Gaza.

Carter stressed his support for recognition of the "legitimate rights" of the Palestinians and acceptance by all sides of United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 calling for an Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territory in return for a secure peace.

"But let me re-state a clear policy that will continue to guide me in the future," the President said.

"I am opposed to an independent Palestinian state because, in our judgment and in the judgment of many leaders in the Middle East, including many Arab leaders, this would be a destabilizing factor in the Middle East and certainly would not serve United States interests.

"I will not negotiate with or recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization

unless it first recognizes Israel's right to exist and accepts United Nations Security Council Resolution 242...."

The President opened his remarks with a new pledge of continuing U.S. military and economic aid to Israel "to enable it to defend itself against any possible adversary."

"You can depend on that," he said. He also repeated a statement he made to Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin in Washington in 1977, on the 30th anniversary of the founding of Israel, that the United States would support Israel not just for a further 30 years but forever.

"I want to emphasize in the strongest possible terms that our aid for Israel is not only altruistic — our close relationship with Israel is in the moral and strategic interests of the United States," Carter said.

"I will continue to work with the leaders of Israel to strengthen even further our common commitment."

"We know that in a time of crisis we can count on Israel... and that in a time of crisis they can count on us. Israel is an important force for stability in the Middle East."

The President also said he intended to continue pressing his campaign for human



rights throughout the world.

"We have insisted that the Soviet Union live up to its public promises in the Helsinki accords to protect the political and social rights of its own citizens and others," he said.

"Support for human rights, like support for Israel, is an expression of basic American ideals."

For reconciliation.

Sarkis begins consultations

BEIRUT, Feb. 26 (R) — Lebanese President Elias Sarkis Tuesday embarked on what is expected to be a long process of consultations with parliamentary leaders to achieve political reconciliation among rival factions in the war-torn country.

Premier Salim Hoss was present as Sarkis received the independent parliamentary bloc headed by Speaker Kamel Assaad. It is the biggest group in the single-house chamber and comprises members not affiliated to parties involved in Lebanon's armed conflict.

The government's move followed Syria's decision to withdraw from Beirut and its suburbs an estimated 8,000-man force serving with the all-Syrian Arab peace-keeping troops and redeploying it in other parts of the country.

The Syrian withdrawal gave rise to fears about a possible renewal of large-scale fighting similar to the 1975-76 civil war, especially after some political groups expressed reservations about whether the Lebanese Army could fill the ensuing "security gap."

Political sources believe that reaching a common denominator among the conflicting sides will help remove these reservations and consequently allay fears of a new flareup.

The consultations are expected to include eventually non-parliamentary politicians and religious leaders as well as trade unionists and economists.

Officials fear the latest violence may have adverse effects on the government's reconciliation efforts.

A remote-controlled bomb planted in a parked car in Christian east Beirut killed eight persons Saturday, including the baby daughter of Bashir Gemayel, the rightist military commander.

The following day an armed clash developed between members of two leftist parties — the Progressive Party and the nationalist Social Party — in a Beirut suburb, resulting in 12 persons being killed.

A minor clash took place in predominantly Muslim west Beirut Monday night between the followers of the pro-Iraq Arab Baath Socialist Party and the Lebanese Communist Party. Security sources said one man was killed.

A bomb planted in a west Beirut hotel went off late Monday night, wounding seven people.

Tuesday, there was heavy shooting in areas close to the commercial center of Beirut which divides the two main sectors of the capital. There was no immediate explanation for the outburst which is not unusual.

The authorities, however, seem determined to go ahead with attempts to bring about national reconciliation despite the various security incidents. These included an estimated 60 persons killed in a six-day artillery duel in north Lebanon earlier this month between Falangist forces and Syrian troops backing rightist supporters of former President Suleiman Franjeh.

In the meantime, the whereabouts of a prominent Lebanese publisher, Selim Lawzi, kidnapped in his car Sunday, are still unknown. Lawzi, publisher of the London-based weekly magazine Al-Hawadess, was abducted on his way to Beirut airport.

Ample cement in Jeddah

JEDDAH, Feb. 26 (SPA) — The recent increasing demand of construction development has brought increased amounts of cement.

In addition to local cement production, 800,000 bags of cement arrived at Jeddah Islamic Port, Abdullah Al-Hussaini said. Hussaini is the director of the Jeddah branch of the Ministry of Commerce. He added that demand for cement has increased by 60 per cent this month compared to requests last month.

The present cost of a bag of cement is SR 10.5 and the cost for imported cement is SR 17. Earlier in the month SPA reported that 15,000 bags of cement would be sent to Mecca and Taif at a price of SR 15.

The decision was made during a meeting of a special committee appointed by the Jeddah branch of the Ministry of Commerce. The committee decided that control of cement distribution and price was necessary and ordered the ministry's Mecca and Taif branches to further assess the market.

If the official price is not respected, the committee ruled that the companies have the right to halt supply, change their agents and take measures against offenders. The price will be the same in Jeddah and the companies are required to report any violations. The ministry branches in Jeddah, Mecca and Taif are expected to submit a report on the cement market in the ministry's main office within one week.

SABIC aide

meets S. Korean

RIYADH, Feb. 26 (SPA) — The deputy chairman of the Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Company (SABIC), Abdul Aziz Alzamel, met Tuesday the South Korean minister of communications, Yang Soo Yoo, and his delegation, establishing joint projects between South Korea and the Kingdom were discussed during the meeting. Yoo was received Monday by the minister of planning, Sheikh Hisam Nazer and discussed bilateral relations and participation of Korean companies in Saudi Arabian development projects. South Korea wishes to establish industries in Saudi Arabia, Nazer said after the meeting. Yoo arrived here Saturday for a few days visit.



DONATIONS: Prince Saud bin Abdul Mohsen, acting governor of Mecca met Monday Western Region members of the Board of Donations for Afghan Freedom Fighters. Donations so far have exceeded SR26.2 million since December 1979.

Prince to open building for Education Directorate

JEDDAH, Feb. 26 (SPA) — Acting governor of Mecca, Prince Saud bin Abdul Mohsen, will dedicate the new building of the Education Directorate of the Western Region Saturday.

The four story, 91 room building, was constructed in 30 months at a cost of SR32 million. The dedication ceremony will be attended by education officials and Prince Saud will inspect the directorate.

In other education developments, the Board of King Faisal University of Dammam has approved an agreement with the Ministry of Health to operate the new Al Khobar hospital as a teaching hospital and provide medical services to the public.

The rector of the university, Dr. Muhammad Said Oqabani, said Tuesday that the board has decided that specialist students will be trained in the new hospital. Regulations for running teaching hospitals were also endorsed.

The university's budget for fiscal year 1980-81 was also discussed, including proposed expansion of facilities and the opening of new Faculty of Education at the university's branch in Hama.

A committee will be formed by the board to study ways of improving English language programs and improve other foreign language programs. Many other subjects aiming at promoting and developing education and culture were discussed.

The rector of Riyadh University, Dr. Man-

sour Al Turki, received Tuesday Dr. Yen Cheo Hseng, rector of the national university of Taiwan and his delegation. The delegation arrived in Riyadh Monday at the invitation of Riyadh University.

They discussed scientific improvement of the curriculum of the faculties of Agriculture and Medicine of Riyadh University. Dr. Saleh Al-Azal, deputy rector of Riyadh University for higher education and scientific research and the deans of the Faculties of Agriculture and Medicine attended the meeting. Later the Chinese delegation visited the museum of the Faculty of Sciences as a part of the visit prepared by the host university.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabian ambassador to North Yemen, Sheikh Tarad Al Harithi announced in Sanaa Tuesday that 120 Yemeni students will leave Sanaa Wednesday for Pakistan to study in universities there at the Kingdom's expense.

The students, who were granted scholarships, will be transported by a Saudia plane, Sheikh Tarad said. The assistance is part of the continuous cooperation between the two countries, he added.

Guinea to join Mecca meeting

MECCA, Feb. 26 (SPA) — Guinea agreed Monday to attend the second conference of Ministers of Endowment and Islamic Affairs which will be held here March 3.

The adviser to the Guinean embassy here informed the general secretary of the Islamic World League, Sheikh Muhammad Al-Harakan, of his government's decision to attend the conference. He also delivered a message from Guinean President Ahmad Sekou Touré to Sheikh Harakan.

The conference will last four days and discuss the issue of Jerusalem and Islamic holy places, application of Sharia and measures for countering anti-Islamic ideologies.

The ministers will discuss recommendations and decisions of the first conference held here in 1979. They also will review achievements of the persuasion committee implementing that conference's decisions. Participants of the forthcoming conference will visit historic sites and hold various ceremonies.

The Saudi Arabia delegation will be led by the minister of pilgrimage and endowment, Sheikh Abdul Wahab Abdul Wasie, and includes several officials of his ministry.

Saudi Comment

By Abdullah Noor
Al Medina

Mayor Abdullah Naim of Riyadh said a subsidiary municipal office will be set up in Al-Arija region of the capital. The office will allocate land plots to low-income native residents to build houses.

However, the results of citizens building their own homes must be pointed out. First, people fall prey to the greedy hands of the ignorant contractor. However, most become victims to their own greed for saving money. As a result, houses in new localities lack a coherent architectural design rooted to the Arab civilization. Most houses are built either in the Gothic, Vandalistic or American style.

Sometimes houses even look like mere cages of cement blocks devoid of any motif or architectural direction. This haphazard amalgam of conflicting models can be found in one single locality.

The mayor's stress on uniformity among the outer colors of houses in neighborhood is admirable, however dealing with color uniformity will not suffice in making long-lasting cultural impressions. Now is an opportune time to demonstrate how the Arab's progress in construction is symbolic of a deep sense of culture and a living testimony to Arab development and fine taste.

More than anything else, it is a purely cultural matter and I am yet to see what Sheikh Abdullah has to say in this behalf.

WEATHER

Temperatures will rise in most areas. Winds will be southerly and may convert into southeasterly. They will be moderate but occasionally active, causing sand haze in most areas, especially inland.

Seas will be moderate to choppy. Tuesday's temperatures (maximum, minimum in centigrade)

Mecca	28	16
Jeddah	28	17
Riyadh	24	12
Dhahran	21	11
Medina	24	12
Taif	26	09
Jazan	32	24
Hail	16	06
Turaif	12	03
Arar	16	03
Jouf	14	04
Abha	18	11

Nationwide

Tree planting picks up

MUJMA'A, Feb. 26 (SPA) — More than 2,000 trees will be planted in the streets and squares of Mujma'a in the next week. The governor of the city Abdullah bin Ibrahim Al-Mummar dedicated the commencement of plant-a-tree week in the Sudair area.

The program is sponsored by the youth welfare authority and the education department in the Sudair area. Efforts are to be coordinated with the Water and Agriculture Directorate and the Vocational Training Center in Mujma'a also.

Efforts by various organizations are being made across the Kingdom to enhance parks and gardens as part of an overall beautification project. The city of Medina is also carrying out its plant-a-tree week beginning Feb. 28. That city's program is organized jointly by the governorate, the municipality, the local branch of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water, the police, the local branch of the Ministry of Education, the Water and Sewage Department and the Youth Welfare Organization.

One effort at tree planting was conducted in Hail as a five-day camp planted trees at 15 government institutions and girls' schools throughout the area. However, the largest drive for expanding parks and planting greenery in one area has been in the city of Jeddah.

Under the direction of the Jeddah Municipality and Deputy Mayor Hassan Hajra, a wide-scale program of beautification is underway. The municipality has already instituted a scheme of planting and development of small gardens. This project has been allotted SR4 million this year of an SR1 billion projects appropriation. SR1 billion compensation fund and SR250 million budget for recurrent expenditures. It is being spent on 26 small parks and planting along the roads, as well as landscaping selected areas.

The municipality's early efforts to make

the waste ground bloom have depended on plants needing a good deal of attention. Every night, trucks dump treated sewage water on lush gardens. Now the policy is to plant desert bushes and trees that can be left alone after some preliminary tending.

Jeddah's 26 parks are blocks of waste ground taken over, cleaned up and planted with local shrubs. No grass is used. Grass takes maintenance; shade is the aim. In size and in ambition, the gardens are comparable to those in London squares. The municipality is experimenting with landscaping of barren areas. Work is underway in the dust under the Crown Prince Fahd Street flyover, being carried out by the South Korean firm KLDC.

A further SR18 million has been allocated for the development of a million square meters of desert park between the Mecca and Medina Roads, and the use of the Jebel Tawila as a park in the south-east is being considered.

However, none of these schemes is as massive as the Corniche Project. It is planned as a comprehensive improvement of the seashore the length of Jeddah for recreation alone, 15 kilometers to the north and 25 to the south have been completed. The Corniche runs around the outer edge of the municipality's reclaimed land from the northern edge of the port to Hamra. Hajra says the area will be planted and used as a park. It will eventually be illuminated, and a children's playground will be provided.

The plans to beautify Jeddah extend to the planning department also. The assistant director of the Jeddah planning department, Sami Abdul Jawad said that building parks in new and old parts of the city is "an important part of our plan."

"We have recognized this problem and now we are doing something about it to provide a better environment. In a short space of time this will be a greener city," he added.

Horse race winners announced

RIYADH, Feb. 26 (SPA) — Al Forsuqiyya Club held its 13th Annual Arabian thoroughbred horse race Monday. The winners of the competition's five rounds are as follows:

The beginner's horses first round for the Yanbu prize of SR9,000:

- 1st Place — "Al Anbar" owned by Engineer Nizar Abdul Jadayel
 - 2nd Place — "Firas" owned by Ahmed Abdul Jadayel
 - 3rd Place — "Zarida" owned by Prince Talal bin Bandar bin Abdul Aziz
 - 4th Place — "Anwar" owned by Prince Fahd bin Abdul Aziz
 - 5th Place — "Musa" owned by Prince Muhammad bin Grand Saud
- The beginner's horses second round for the Wajh prize of SR9,000:
- 1st Place — "Al Anbar" owned by Prince Saud bin Fahd bin Saud
 - 2nd Place — "Al Hams" owned by Ibrahim A. Shaddadhi
 - 3rd Place — "Mumtaz" owned by Prince Khalid bin Saud bin Abdul Aziz
 - 4th Place — "Hadda" owned by Prince Turki bin Bandar bin Khalid
 - 5th Place — "Munira" owned by Sheikh Fahd Al Dancer
- The third round race in the third round for the Alf prize of SR11,000:

- 1st Place — "Hajj" owned by Prince Fahd bin Khalid bin Abdul Aziz
 - 2nd Place — "Nafis" owned by Prince Fahd bin Khalid bin Abdul Aziz
 - 3rd Place — "Jarrab" owned by Prince Khalid bin Bandar bin Abdul Aziz
 - 4th Place — "Nizar" owned by Prince Saud bin Fahd bin Saud
 - 5th Place — "Nafara" owned by Prince Turki bin Abdul Aziz
- The second-class horses in the fourth round for the Dammam prize of SR13,000:
- 1st Place — "Al Shar" owned by Engineer Nizar Abdul Jadayel
 - 2nd Place — "Kheir Allah" owned by Muhammad M. Al Ghabrani
 - 3rd Place — "Anwar" owned by Engineer Nizar Abdul Jadayel
 - 4th Place — "Badr" owned by Muhammad M. Al Ghabrani
 - 5th Place — "Farhan" owned by Prince Muhammad bin Abdul Aziz
- The first-class horses fifth round for the Abgaig prize of SR15,000:
- 1st Place — "Thaur" owned by Prince Fahd bin Khalid bin Abdul Aziz
 - 2nd Place — "Munira" owned by Prince Saud bin Fahd bin Saud
 - 3rd Place — "Riyadh" owned by Prince Khalid bin Bandar bin Abdul Aziz
 - 4th Place — "Jawad" owned by Prince Abdul Rahman Abdul Aziz
 - 5th Place — "Anwar" owned by Prince Muhammad bin Grand Saud

Sattam opens Arab League communication conference

RIYADH, Feb. 26 (SPA) — Deputy Governor of Riyadh Prince Sattam Tuesday opened the 14th session of the Arab League Permanent Committee on Communications at King Faisal Conference Hall.

In his opening address, he pointed out the importance of communications in modern times. Communications, he said, are a basic factor in the civilization process.

The committee was established because countries are racing each other in the field of communications, he said. It coordinates the activities of Arab countries in this area.

He added that the committee had already set up several federations in the fields of aviation, telecommunications and postal services and hoped for more cooperation and unity to reach better standards.

The one-week conference was also addressed by Minister of Communications Sheikh Hussein Mansouri who reviewed the work and efforts of the committee which led to improved communications between Arab states.

He said that the rôle of the committee in linking Arabs and the outside world facilitated transport and trade. He added that no efforts should be spared in promoting transport in the Arab world technically and economically.

The importance of cooperation in international federations and organizations creates mutual benefit from long experience, he said.

The current session will discuss cooperation between Arab countries in all fields, except telecommunications. He added that the conference will concentrate on shipping after an independent air transport federation has been formed.

A proposal to set up a road and naval transport federation also will be considered. The committee's recommendations will be submitted to the Economic Council and the Arab League Council.

Pakistan raises exports to \$59m

JEDDAH, Feb. 26 — Pakistan's exports to the Kingdom increased to \$59 million during the first half of the current fiscal year, up from nearly \$44 million in the second half of last year, the Pakistan embassy reported Tuesday.

The main exports were rice, canvas goods, unspun cotton fabrics, cotton bags, textiles, towels, carpets, rugs and handicrafts. Fresh fruits, vegetables, food preparations, drugs and medicines were also exported in substantial quantities.

The other main items of exports were rubber products, cotton yarn, art silk, synthetic fabrics, glass, metal goods, leather garments, sporting items, books, printed material and jewelry.

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Khalil flies to The Hague for autonomy negotiations

CAIRO, Feb. 26 (Agencies) — Egyptian Premier Mustapha Khalil left Tuesday for The Hague to attend a new round of negotiations with Israel and the U.S. on Palestinian autonomy on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The semi-official daily *Al-Ahram* Tuesday said Khalil was carrying instructions from President Anwar Sadat that the autonomy negotiations should be completed on schedule, next May.

The negotiations, which began nine months ago, have made no progress so far because of wide differences between Egypt and Israel on the extent of powers which 1.2 million Palestinians on the West Bank and in Gaza should enjoy.

Israel offers limited powers while Egypt wants to grant the Palestinians executive, legislative and other rights.

Khalil left on the date set for exchanging ambassadors between the two former enemies.

But the obvious deliberate timing of the two events and Sadat's desperate efforts to demonstrate his determination to upkeep his pledge to reach an agreement with Israel on the Palestinian autonomy by next May, did not seem to succeed in dispelling fears at home and in the Arab world over the new bonds between the two countries.

Sadat's internal opposition likened the exchange to a new form of "aggression" and "occupation" and called for a total boycott of

any dealings with the Israelis. A planned demonstration by the leftist progressive Unionist Party was banned by the government.

Protest marches are planned in some Arab capitals as well as in cities of the West Bank and Gaza.

Negative elements include Israel's continued insistence on maintaining and expanding Jewish settlements on occupied Arab territories and keeping East Jerusalem which it annexed following the 1967 war as an integral part of its capital.

U.S. President Jimmy Carter's statement to a young Jewish audience Monday in which he declared opposition to the establishment of a Palestinian state and his refusal to negotiate with the PLO also would not be of any help.

However Egypt propaganda machine relentlessly continued to underline Sadat's "tough" stand regarding achieving full autonomy.

A foreign ministry spokesman, quoted by the Middle East News Agency (MENA), said the presentation of the credentials of Ambassador Saad Murrada in Jerusalem does not mean recognizing the holy city as a capital of Israel.

"No legal or political consequences should result from presenting credentials of ambassadors in places where heads of state reside," the spokesman stressed.

Khalil told MENA after meeting with Sadat Monday that he is going to The Hague carrying instructions to "insist on bringing the autonomy talks to a fruitful conclusion" by next May.

U.S. Ambassador to Cairo Alfred Atherton attended part of Sadat's meeting with Khalil and was quoted later by MENA as saying that he has communicated to the Egyptian leader "some information" from Carter's Mideast envoy Sol Linowitz regarding Washington's views on the situation.

Linowitz is to attend The Hague talks between Khalil and Israel's chief negotiator Joseph Burg.

Ghali holds talks in Paris

PARIS, Feb. 26 (R) — Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali arrived Monday for talks with French Foreign Minister Jean Francois-Poncet on the latest Middle East developments.

He will discuss the normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel, the troubled conditions in Lebanon and the situation in the Gulf, Egyptian officials said.

Turkey's economic program endorsed by Western states

PARIS, Feb. 26 (Agencies) — Western industrial states have unanimously endorsed Turkey's economic development program, clearing the way for substantial fresh aid to its hard-pressed economy.

Emil Van Lennep, secretary-general of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), said the Turks presented an economic plan to their Western colleagues which calls for reducing monetary controls and increasing Turkish reliance on foreign resources.

"We unanimously felt that the program is appropriate and valuable, and deserves the full support of OECD member countries," he told a news conference Monday at the end of a one-day meeting here.

Van Lennep declined to give specific figures of Turkey's immediate and near-term financial requirements. These would be set at an OECD "pledging session" March 26, he

said.

Turgut Ozal, coordinator of Turkey's economic policy who presented his country's case, said he hoped that with OECD's help, the Turkish economy would return to normal within two years.

Ozal said Turkey's current outstanding debts in the form of commercial loans and government-to-government aid, now totaled \$14 billion.

Last year, the Western industrialized countries extended a special economic assistance of \$961 million to meet Turkey's urgent needs and finance import requirements.

They also decided to provide extra finance and to reschedule Turkish debts to help the country's balance of payments.

The Turkish government has been pressing for more substantial and immediate financial and technological assistance.

NATO chief to visit Ankara

Carter lauds progress over Cyprus

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26 (R) — President Jimmy Carter says the United States was encouraged by some signs of progress in negotiations between Greece and Turkey to settle the Cyprus dispute.

In a speech to the American Hellenic Education Association, a Greek-American group Monday night, Carter said the United States supported a peaceful settlement in Cyprus. But he said the parties did not want the United States to be a public intermediary.

"We have been disappointed that this dispute has not been readily or easily or quickly resolved," Carter said.

"We have been very gratified in the last few days to learn Turkey and Greece have finally resolved one of the most difficult issues affecting the Aegean Sea area, and that is concerning civil aviation."

"And we hope that this progress, although slow and although fumbling and also sometimes not certain, will now spread to other issues. And we see encouraging signs about this in recent weeks."

Last week Turkey lifted restrictions on civil air traffic over the Aegean and Greece responded by lifting similar restrictions.

Carter's remarks came one day after he was attacked on the Cyprus issue by his chief

Iran minister quits to stand for elections

TEHRAN, Feb. 26 (R) — Interior Minister Hojatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, a member of the ruling revolutionary council, said Monday he had submitted his resignation to President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr because he is running in next month's parliamentary elections.

The resignation was due to be discussed at Tuesday's revolutionary council meeting.

The minister told the afternoon newspaper *Ettela'at* he wanted to step down for the period of the elections as his ministry had special responsibility for supervising the vote in which he was a candidate.

Tehran Mayor Mohammad Tavassoli also resigned Monday for the same reason.

Deputy Defense Minister Hojatoleslam Mohammad Ali Khamene'i has also resigned to run in the elections, adding that the appointment of President Bani-Sadr as commander-in-chief of the armed forces made his job unnecessary.

But one council member who apparently will not resign is Oil Minister Ali Akbar Moinefar, who dismissed rumors of his impending departure circulated in Iranian newspapers.

Moinefar is also standing for the March 14 Islamic assembly vote.

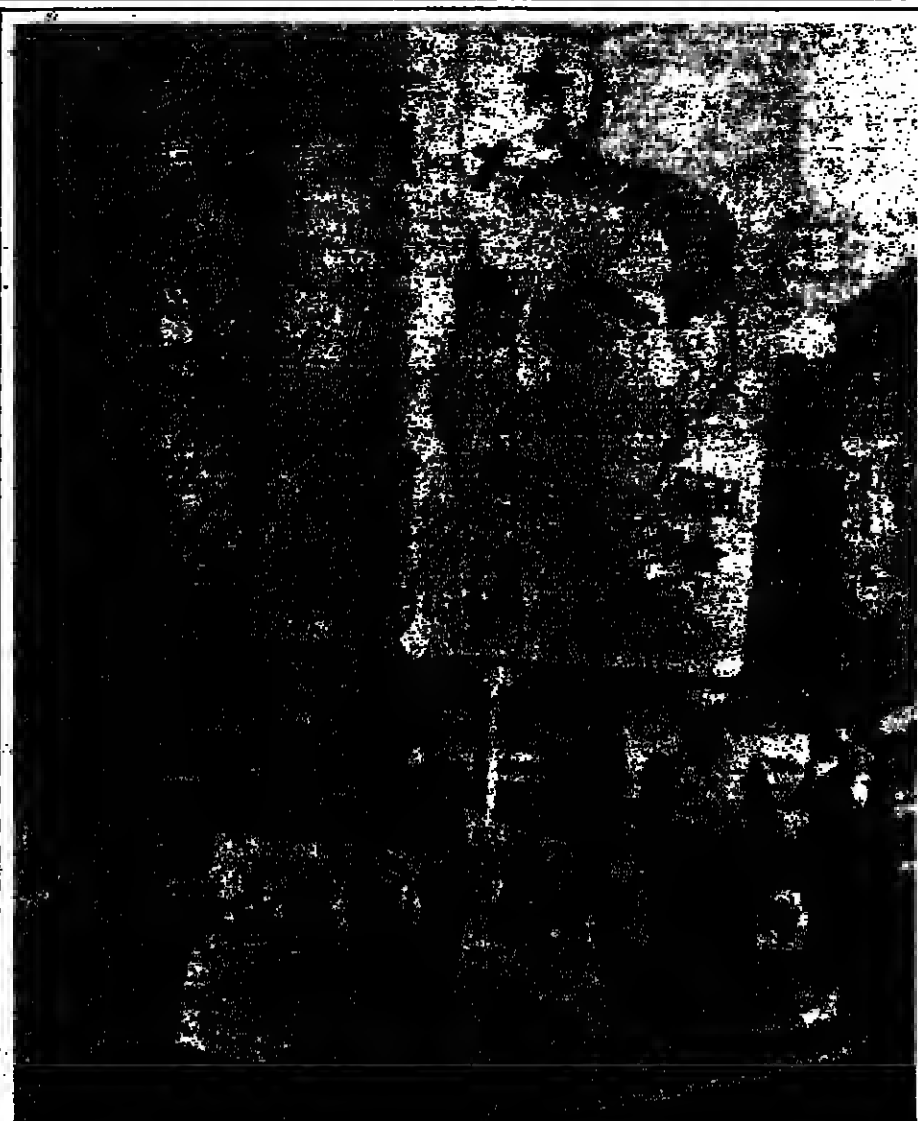
Algerian minister in India for talks

NEW DELHI, Feb. 26 (R) — Algerian Foreign Minister Muhammad Seddik Benyahia arrived here Tuesday on a five-day visit for talks with Indian leaders.

In a brief airport statement, the minister said he had come to Delhi to develop further friendship which was more necessary because non-aligned countries must play their role in international relations.

Benyahia will meet Premier Indira Gandhi and hold talks with the external affairs minister.

A technical and scientific cooperation agreement is expected to be signed and a cultural exchange program finalized. India is currently involved in projects in Algeria worth \$37 million.



PROTEST: A group of Afghan students gather in downtown Washington last week to protest the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. The students carried banners and posters, including this caricature of Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev.

Higher prices foreseen

Israel unveils austerity budget

TEL AVIV, Feb. 26 (Agencies) — Israeli Finance Minister Yigal Hurwitz has brought an austerity budget to parliament allocating a larger share for defense and forecasting higher prices and more hardships for the people.

Battling devastating inflation of over 100 per cent, Hurwitz Monday appealed to the public to work harder and accept a cut in government spending.

The government will abolish all subsidies for essential foodstuffs and services, except those on bread and public transport — and these will be reduced during the coming fiscal year. The move is expected to bring increases in the cost of fuel, electricity, water, telephones, health care and education, among other goods and services.

Abandoning the text of the government's major economic speech of the year, Hurwitz said, "the state belongs to all of us. Without physical, spiritual and moral exertion, without true cooperation, the economy will not mend."

Hurwitz proposed a budget of 653 billion Israeli pounds, or 65.3 billion shekels, the new currency the government introduced this week to replace the battered pound and restore the public's flagging confidence in the value of its money.

At Monday's exchange rate of four shekels to the dollar, the budget came to \$16.3 billion, but devaluations over the budget year starting April 1 were expected to reduce the dollar equivalent to about \$12 billion.

The government proposed slashing budgets across the board by six per cent to help pay for a nine per cent increase in defense spending. Defense was allocated 32.2 per cent of the total budget, up from 30.7 per cent in fiscal 1979.

More defense money was needed to pay for

the redeployment of Israeli forces from the Sinai Peninsula, which is being relinquished under the 11-month-old peace treaty with Egypt, to Israel's own Negev Desert.

"We are talking about large expenditures for a new infrastructure, including roads, communications, electricity, water, air bases and supply bases," Hurwitz said.

Part of the burden will be offset by a \$2 billion loan from the United States, but Hurwitz said arms purchases abroad also will be trimmed to meet the cost and more of the army's needs will be produced at home.

The Knesset, parliament, was expected to debate the budget proposal this week before voting it in committees. Final approval is not expected for several weeks.

A new round of price rises was expected within weeks as the government passes on to the consumer the rising cost of imports as the shekel sinks against the dollar.

Israel radio reported that uncertainty over the meaning of converting pounds to shekels caused a rush on banks Sunday and Monday, driving up the price of the dollar by five per cent.

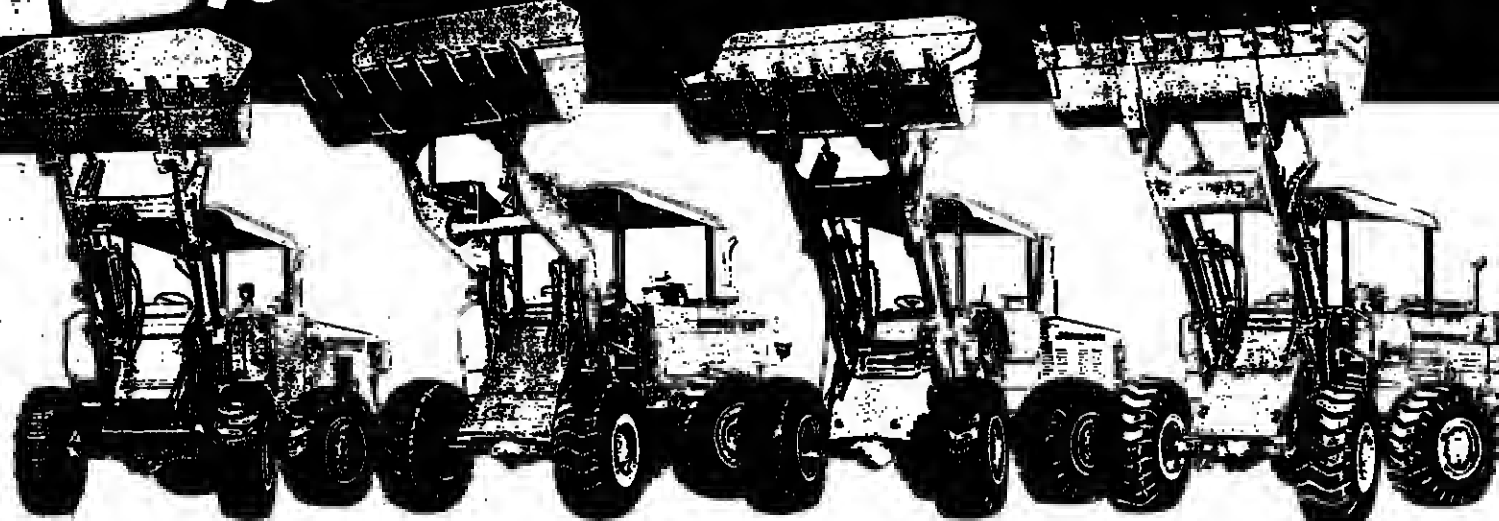
Opposition spokesman attacked the budget, saying that it would cause widespread unemployment without helping to solve Israel's economic problems.

Some experts estimate that half of all business transactions are unreported, costing the treasury millions of dollars in taxes each year. Hurwitz will introduce legislation this week requiring most Israelis to report on their capital assets to help monitor wealth.

The minister offered no prediction of next year's inflation rate, which soared to 111 per cent in the year ending Dec. 31. But treasury officials said they hoped to cut the rate to 65-70 per cent.

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\$ 50 million package

Cuba to send Nicaragua financial aid

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, Feb. 26 (AP) — Cuba will send \$ 50 million in aid to Nicaragua this year, the Sandinista Liberation Front newspaper "Bagricada" reported Monday.

Nicaragua recently received 108 fishing boats and a freighter as part of the aid package signed by the two governments Sunday, the newspaper said.

There are 1,200 Cuban teachers and 28 doctors in Nicaragua. No other country has sent as much technical assistance to Nicaragua since the Sandinista-backed government took power last July, the newspaper said.

President Anastasio Somoza Debayle, whose family had controlled Nicaragua for more than 40 years, was overthrown in July 1979.

Nicaragua is awaiting a decision by the U.S. Congress on proposed \$ 75 million aid package.

Congressmen opposed to President Jimmy Carter's request for aid to Nicaragua are trying to attach strings to the grant in an alleged effort to guarantee democratic rule in that country.

They had amendments ready Tuesday to make the U.S. aid contingent on free democratic elections in Nicaragua and observance of

human rights.

Congressman Robert B. Bauman said intelligence reports presented Monday at a secret House of Representatives session support his conclusion that Nicaragua is already "under Cuban domination."

But Carter and House leaders say the U.S. aid could keep Nicaragua from turning Communist.

Carter administration officials have testified that several thousand Cuban teachers and other civilians are in Nicaragua, some as advisers to members of Nicaragua's government, but that Nicaragua is not already headed for Marxism.

Craft carried machine guns

El Salvador plane crashes near Tampico

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador, Feb. 26 (AP) — Mexican police said a plane bound for El Salvador apparently loaded with weapons crashed near the Gulf port of Tampico. The pilot was killed in the crash.

The police said the pilot was the son of a prominent Salvadoran businessman Maria Rodriguez de Boet, who owns a record store chain in El Salvador. The police said the

cargo was machine guns and ammunition.

In San Salvador the military-civilian junta, struggling to stay in power, Monday condemned right-wing extremists "for creating a climate of violence in the country."

In an official communique released early Monday morning, the government denounced the murder of Attorney General Mario Zamora Rivas, who was killed in his

home early Saturday by six masked men who interrupted a private gathering of Christian Democrat party members.

Retired Maj. Roberto D'Abuison, a well-known spokesman for El Salvador's rightists, earlier had accused Zamora Rivas and Vice Agriculture Minister Jorge Villacosta of being a "bridge between the terrorists of the left and the Christian Democrats."

British handling of Rhodesia condemned by Uganda

KAMPALA, Uganda, Feb. 26 (AP) — Uganda President Godfrey Binaisa Monday condemned Britain's handling of the Rhodesian situation and said in the case of war Uganda would join the frontline states to "morally and materially" assist the Patriotic Front and other "democratic" forces.

In a press release from Entebbe State house, read on Radio Uganda, Binaisa said

he welcomed the U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim's decision to send a personal representative to Salisbury to observe this week's elections.

Accusing the British of an "anti-Patriotic front attitude" and tactics "calculated to intimidate" front supporters, Binaisa said, "those who think that they will succeed in excluding Robert Mugabe from a future

Zimbabwe government are kidding themselves."

Binaisa accused British Governor Lord Soames of allowing gross violations of human rights against the people of Zimbabwe by using the existing Rhodesian security forces to maintain internal security and monitor the cease-fire. Binaisa called for the forces to return to their bases, where they could be monitored.

He condemned "British complacency" in the face of continued interference by South Africa in Rhodesia, and said South African aggression against Zambia and Mozambique "constituted a serious threat to peace in the entire region of Southern Africa."

In other developments, radio Uganda confirmed the appointment of Barnabas Kunuka as minister of internal affairs. Kunuka had been acting minister since the sacking of Paulo Muwanga three weeks ago.

The state-run radio also announced that Muwanga was promoted to labor minister, a position he held for a short period after being demoted in the short-lived administration of Yusufu Lule.

The reshuffle followed several closed meetings between president Godfrey Binaisa and the country's interim parliament, the National Consultative Council.

Muwanga was sacked in a dispute over the banning of three independent newspapers and the detention of the editor of the official government daily, "The Uganda Times."

Muwanga was accused by Binaisa of taking liberties on his own.

Muwanga denied that he acted unilaterally and said that the bans and detention were fully discussed with the president and cabinet.



SLIPPERY WHEN WET: Floodwaters sever a highway beside a golf course, foreground, in Palm Springs, Calif. Heavy rains severely damaged the area south of Los Angeles during the seven-day storm. In addition, an earthquake hit Palm Springs causing one broken gas main and a fire. The quake registered 5.1 on the Richter scale and caused scattered rockslides. Police said no injuries were reported.

Cabinet broken over economy

Thatcher admits disunity

LONDON, Feb. 26 (AP) — A television defense of her controversial economic and industrial policies by conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher won massive front-page coverage Tuesday in the British press.

In the interview Thatcher admitted there is disagreement in her cabinet — in which she is the only woman — on how to cope with strikes and inflation.

The nationalized British Steel Corp. is paralyzed by an eight-week-old strike over a

pay dispute that has stopped 85 per cent of steel output. The rise in the cost of living is running at 18.4 per cent, against 10.3 per cent when the Tories swept to power in a national election last May 3.

The verdict was mixed on her Monday-night appearance with questioner Robin Day in the British Broadcasting Corp's "Panorama" program.

Among Tory newspapers, the *Daily Telegraph* found Thatcher "strangely subdued" at times. The *Daily Express* said she has obvious doubts about tactics to cope with the country's problems.

The *Daily Mail* commented that the premier "was by turns disconcertingly honest, patently ill-at-ease and hearteningly resolute."

The liberal *Guardian* said the premier will have little difficulty winning Thursday's censure motion on her policies, submitted by the opposition laborites in the House of Commons, but "she will find it much less easy to win the argument."

In the television interview, Thatcher said she differed with three of her top ministers. Political correspondents remarked that no other prime minister has given ministers such a public mauling.

Soviets build air bus

MOSCOW, Feb. 26 (AP) — The Soviet Union's new wide-body IL-86 Airbus is expected to go into regular passenger service by the time of this summer's Moscow Olympics, a Soviet aviation official said Monday.

Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation Ivan S. Razumovsky spoke at an airport news conference to acquaint foreign correspondents with the medium-range plane, which is still undergoing flight tests.

"We hope to start (regular service) before the opening of the Olympic games," Razumovsky said.

He said that in the future the IL-86 should be able to handle about 20 per cent of total Soviet domestic air traffic.

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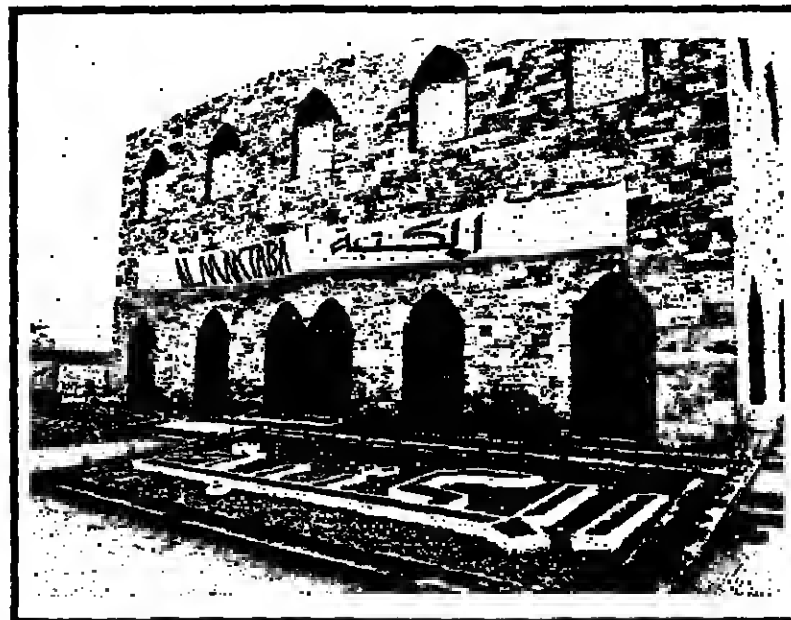
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'A hero's welcome' Carter greets U.S. Winter Olympic team

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26 (Agencies) President Jimmy Carter gave a hero's welcome to the U.S. Winter Olympic team but he was confronted with widespread opposition among the athletes to his call for boycott of the Summer Games in Moscow.

Carter conducted a colorful, emotion-filled pageant of praise Monday at the White House for the athletes who competed in Lake Placid.

But after a luncheon given by the President and his wife, speed skater Eric Heiden told reporters that almost all the members of the team had signed a petition opposing Carter's demand for a boycott of the Moscow Olympics.

Heiden, who won five gold medals in speed skating and was personally hailed by the President moments earlier, said the athletes brought the petition with them but he was unsure whether it was delivered to Carter.

"I don't think a boycott is the right thing," Heiden said. "I don't like politics in sport. It's hard on the people who have been training all their lives."

Carter called for the Moscow games boycott as a protest against Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

In the ceremony, the President repeated his pledge and said he would seek to provide alternative competition for the athletes.

"The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan has violated world peace and the principles of the Olympics," he said from the balcony of the south portico of the White House, looking down at the athletes.

He said he would soon meet some of the athletes due to compete in the summer Games to discuss organizing "an alternate world-class competition that will not harm Olympic principles or future Olympic Games."

"We are often told there are no more heroes," Carter told a cheering crowd of government workers waving American flags. "But our Olympic athletes are heroes."

The ceremony began with the Marine Band playing the Olympic theme as the athletes marched up the stairs to be greeted by a beaming President.

Carter told the athletes, "You've thrilled the entire nation and we are all grateful."

The President embraced Heiden and warmly greeted the American ice hockey team which upset the Soviet team and went on to capture the gold medal.

"Eric Heiden's performance will be remembered for years to come," he told the crowd. He called the hockey victory perhaps the greatest upset in the history of sport.

The cheerful ceremony had some domestic political significance as well. Carter had surrounded himself with the new American heroes one day before a crucial primary election vote against Senator Edward Kennedy in New Hampshire.

The occasion demonstrated the ability of an incumbent President to use his office to command national attention. And his opponents for the Democratic party nomination would have difficulty in complaining about the timing — the Winter Olympics ended only Sunday.

A bill to award Congressional medals to Heiden and the ice hockey team was introduced in the house of Representatives by Republican Frank Annunzio.

Meanwhile, tiny Lake Placid is getting back to its quiet routine after the 13-day gold rush.

On Monday, the day after the Olympic flame was extinguished, the 2,500 residents of Lake Placid were dismantling the structures erected to cope with a massive, but short-lived invasion of spectators, reporters and young athletes from 37 nations.

First to come down were the barriers that kept carloads of spectators and visitors from the jammed village streets. Most of the 10 temporary post offices were shut down by day's end, ready to be hauled away. Trucks carrying hundreds of portable toilets moved out of town. Main street stores that had served as corporate hospitality suites stood as empty shells.

Restaurant prices, doubled during the games, came down — at least a little. A sandwich and soup or salad, \$ 5.95 in the Woodshed during the games, cost \$ 4.95 on Monday. A waitress said she thought the normal price of \$ 3.50 would be back later this week.

A few dozen of the thousands of reporters who had taken over most of the motel space within 15 miles (40 kms) were in town shopping for souvenirs as workers began restoring the media center to Lake Placid High School, where students will return March 5.

Village officials hope the games will produce an economic boom here — despite early bad publicity from an erratic transportation system that left thousands of would-be visitors stranded miles away.

"It's like a toothache. It hurts a lot while you've got it, but when it's gone you tend to forget the pain," said Mayor Robert Peacock.

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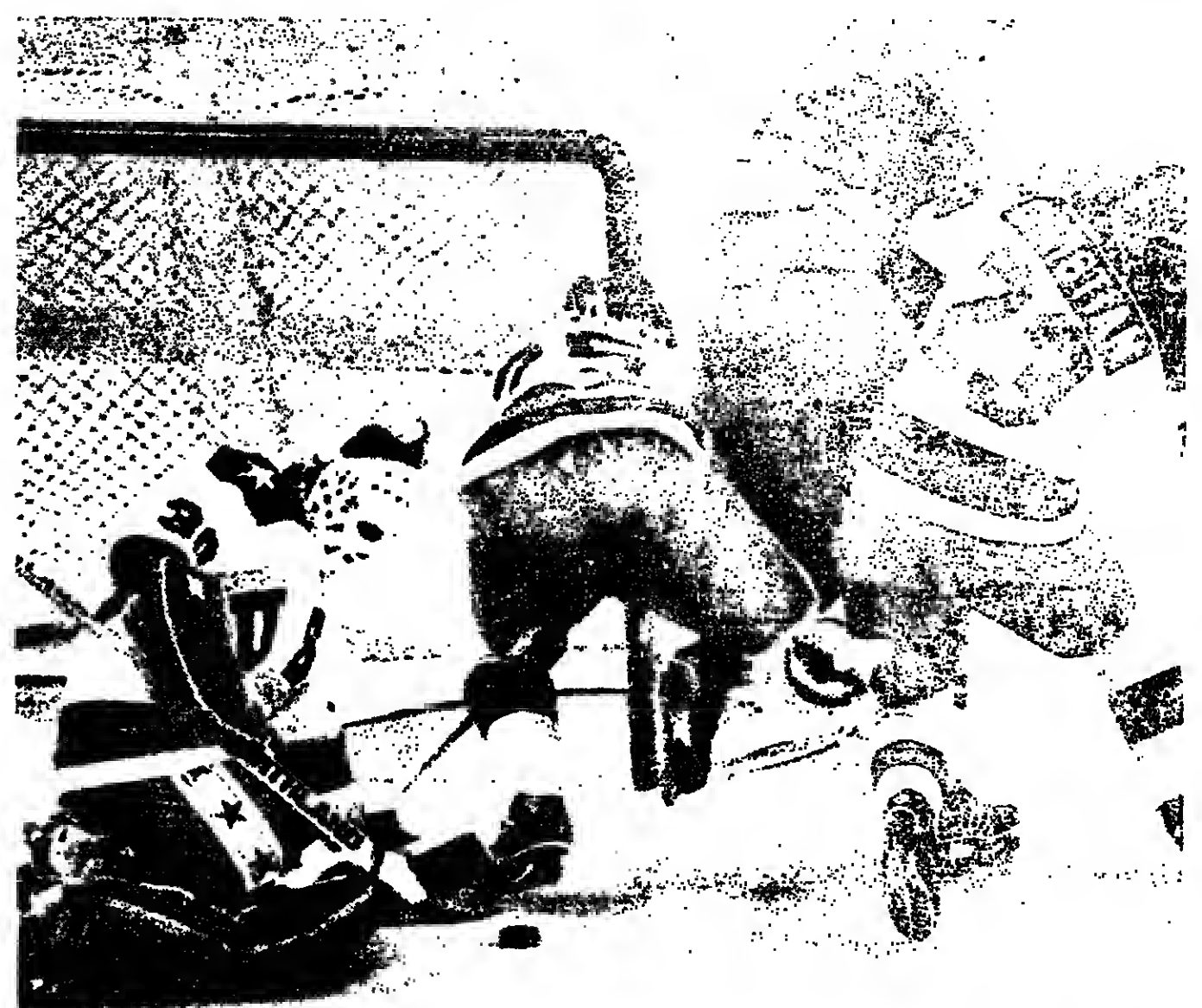
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SAVED: James Craig of the U.S. hockey team blocks a goal attempt by the Soviet team during the Winter Olympic playoffs which resulted in an American upset win over the Russians. At center is U.S. defenseman William Schneider. At right U.S. forward David Christian is hit by Soviet forward Victor Zhukov. The U.S. went on to win the gold medal defeating Finland 4-2.



TRIUMPH: Eric Heiden, of Madison, Wisconsin, carries an Olympic torch as he wears his fifth gold medal from the Winter Olympics around his neck. Heiden was handed the torch by the torchbearer, at left, after receiving the medal for winning the 10,000 meter speed skate race in record time.

Windies umpire protest heightens

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand, Feb. 26 (R) — Cricket umpire Fred Goodall is to report West Indies fast bowler Colin Croft for his behavior on the fourth day of the second test with New Zealand here Tuesday.

Goodall said that after an appeal for a catch was turned down Croft swore at him and later struck him with his shoulder while howling.

"It hurt for a while," said Goodall. "I said to West Indies captain Clive Lloyd, 'I have taken some treatment from players in my time but it has always been verbal. You deal with Croft because we mean to in our written report to the New Zealand board.'"

Despite Croft's brush with Goodall it was a day of superb cricket with 369 runs being scored for the loss of only six wickets.

At the close West Indies were 157 for no wicket in their second innings, still 75 runs short of the new Zealand first innings total of 460.

Heiden, who won five gold medals in speed skating and was personally hailed by the President moments earlier, said the athletes brought the petition with them but he was unsure whether it was delivered to Carter.

"I don't think a boycott is the right thing," Heiden said. "I don't like politics in sport. It's hard on the people who have been training all their lives."

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"The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan has violated world peace and the principles of the Olympics," he said from the balcony of the south portico of the White House, looking down at the athletes.

Cruyff signs Washington contract

NEW YORK, Feb. 26 (R) — Johan Cruyff, the North American Soccer League's most valuable player while with the Los Angeles Aztecs last season, has signed a multi-year contract with the Washington Diplomats, the New York Times reported Tuesday.

The Times said that David (Sonny) Werblin, president of the Madison Square Garden Corporation which owns the Diplomats, had confirmed the signing. He declined to reveal the financial terms of the agreement but said it was "for a lot of money."

The 32-year-old former Dutch international is the only player to have been voted European Player of the Year three times.

Cruyff was persuaded to come out of retirement last June by the Aztecs, who signed him on a one-year contract.

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Davis Cup: Argentina meets U.S. Navratilova seeks fifth straight Houston title

HOUSTON, Texas, Feb. 26 (AP) — Top-seeded Martina Navratilova took aim at her fifth straight title, cruising past Dianne Morrison of the U.S. 6-0, 6-2 Monday night in the \$150,000 women's pro tennis tournament.

Czechoslovakian-born Navratilova, who is the top-ranked women's tennis player in the world, has never lost in 20 singles matches played in the Houston tournament and has a string of 30 singles matches and eight tournament wins.

Play opened Monday morning in the tournament, which runs through March 2.

The only other seeded player on the court during the first day's competition was no. 7-seeded Virginia Ruzici of Romania who defeated Paula Smith of the U.S. 6-3, 6-2.

In doubles play, Greer Stevens of South Africa and Sherry Acker of the U.S. defeated Ulyia Hanika of West Germany and Regina Marsikova of Czechoslovakia, 6-1, 6-7, (5-7 tiebreaker), 7-5.

The finals of the tournament, sponsored by Avon Products, will be held Sunday. A first prize of \$30,000 will be awarded to the singles winner.

In Columbus, Ohio, Renee Richards of the U.S. scored a 6-3, 4-6, 6-3 victory over Heidi Eisterlehner of West Germany in a \$25,000 women's tennis tournament which opened Monday.

Seventh-seeded Yvone Vermaack of South Africa defeated Lindsay Morse of the U.S. 6-3, 6-3. Hana Strachonova of Switzerland downed Bana Gilbert of the U.S. 6-4, 6-1.

In Memphis, Tennessee, Peter McNamara of Australia defeated countryman Chris Kachel, 6-1, 6-2. In early first round play Monday at the \$250,000 National Indoor Tennis Championships.

Meanwhile, top seeds John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors sat out the first day of play at the Raquet Club. Their first matches are Tuesday.

Also Monday Elliott Teltscher downed Ray Moore, 6-4, 6-1. Russell Simpson defeated Fritz Buehning, 6-1, 6-4. Connors, ranked third among the world's professional tennis players and this year's no. 2 seed in Memphis, will be seeking his third consecutive U.S. Indoor title and a \$40,000 first prize. McEnroe, the controversial left-hander, is the tournament's top seed.

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Connors, 27, has five U.S. Indoor crowns, winning in 1973-75 and in 1978 and 1979 in Memphis. He will meet McNamara Tuesday. McEnroe, 21, currently no. 2 in the world, will play his first match against Ferdi Taygan. Bjorn Borg of Sweden the world's top ranked player, is not entered in this year's U.S. Indoor.

Other top seeds, in order, are Roscoe Tanner, Gene Mayer and Harold Solomon.

Hunt regains winning form in Stockton Open

STOCKTON, England, Feb. 26 (R) — Australian Geoff Hunt shrugged off his recent patchy form and raced to a 9-7 9-4 9-2 semi-final win over New Zealander Bruce Brownlee in the Stockton Open Squash Championship.

World champion Hunt now has a chance for a revenge triumph over world number two Qamar Zaman of Pakistan.

Zaman, whose semi-final opponent Mohibullah Khan dropped out because of a back injury, beat Hunt in the final of a tournament in Manchester last Friday.

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EXCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS

The exchange of ambassadors between Cairo and occupied Jerusalem ends a chapter in the relations between Egypt and Israel and starts a new one. The Camp David accords have weathered all the difficulties that faced them, and have born their bitter fruit in the full diplomatic representation now taking place between Israel and Egypt, and in the various schemes of cooperation in the economic, cultural, touristic and even perhaps security, fields.

The Arab world, for whom this prospect was always too awful to contemplate, which has always hoped that the process that started at Camp David will at some point be reversed, has now to admit that the Egyptian leadership will go in its bilateral agreement with the Israelis to the limit. It will have no choice therefore but to persist in its boycott of the Egyptian regime.

The Egyptian government has always claimed that the people are squarely behind it. Yet the Egyptian people were noted mostly for their absence from the various celebrations marking the "normalization" of the relations with the Israelis. The Egyptian press itself, despite government controls, has been vocal in its criticisms of the sham peace.

Israel has chosen to mark the exchange of ambassador in its own arrogant way, pressing on with its program for settlement-building in the occupied territories and intensifying its effort to absorb these fully. The Israelis have made it clear that the protests of the international community at the illegality of these acts will go unheeded.

The Egyptian government, for its own part, has also protested. But it consistently refused to link the ongoing process of normalization with Israel's readiness to terminate its illegal occupation of Arab lands. Israel therefore is sure that such a protest is merely verbal and that its main aim, which is to neutralize the major Arab power, has been achieved.

After Afghanistan -- who's next?

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The writer, Britain's ambassador in Moscow at the time of the Hungarian uprising, looks at further possible victims of Soviet conquest.)

By William Hayter

LONDON —

The Russians seem to invade a country once every 12 years, Hungary in 1956, Czechoslovakia in 1968 and Afghanistan in 1980. This is better than Hitler, who did it every 12 months, but one wonders whose turn it will be in 1992.

Actually, the timing is clearly accidental, since it depends on factors outside the Kremlin's control. There is a strong similarity between the three invasions. Each was of a country where there was a Communist regime in power, but in danger of collapse. The Russians intervened to replace the existing Communist leadership by another more efficient one, and one more subservient to themselves. The previous Communist leaders were deposed and in two cases (Nagy and Amin) killed; Dubcek precariously survives.

In each case there was a wholly unfounded claim to have been invited in; and in each case the Russians promised to withdraw their troops as soon as the position was stabilized. After 24 years in Hungary and 12 Czechoslovakia, the Soviet troops are still there, and it is not likely that we shall see them leaving Afghanistan very soon.

There is however, one major difference between Hungary and Czechoslovakia on the one hand and Afghanistan on the other. The first two are within an area long recognized as part of the Soviet Empire.

Afghanistan is not so recognized, even though it had had a Communist government for some years before the invasion and had long been subject to Soviet influence.

An analogy with the Kremlin's action there would have been if, when the Shah was tottering, the Americans had sent troops into Iran to prop him up, or to replace him with a more efficient or more acceptable Shah.

Of course the analogy is not complete, because Iran is on the borders of the Soviet Union. A reverse analogy would be if the Castro regime began to totter and Soviet troops were sent there to prop it up.

Analogies are often misleading, and these two contingencies are unlikely, but they seem to illustrate something important about the general situation.

In the first place, determined as the Kremlin always is not to let Communist regimes, once established, be overthrown, they can hardly put this determination into effect in areas too remote from their borders and too near the United States, and the same inhibition applies the other way round to the United States government.

There is a lack of symmetry in the position of the two superpowers. The Soviet Union has no vital interests in countries bordering on the United States (unless it be for purposes of aggression). But the United States, and the West as a whole, have vital interests in countries bordering on the Soviet Union or near it, particularly, of course, the oil of the Gulf.

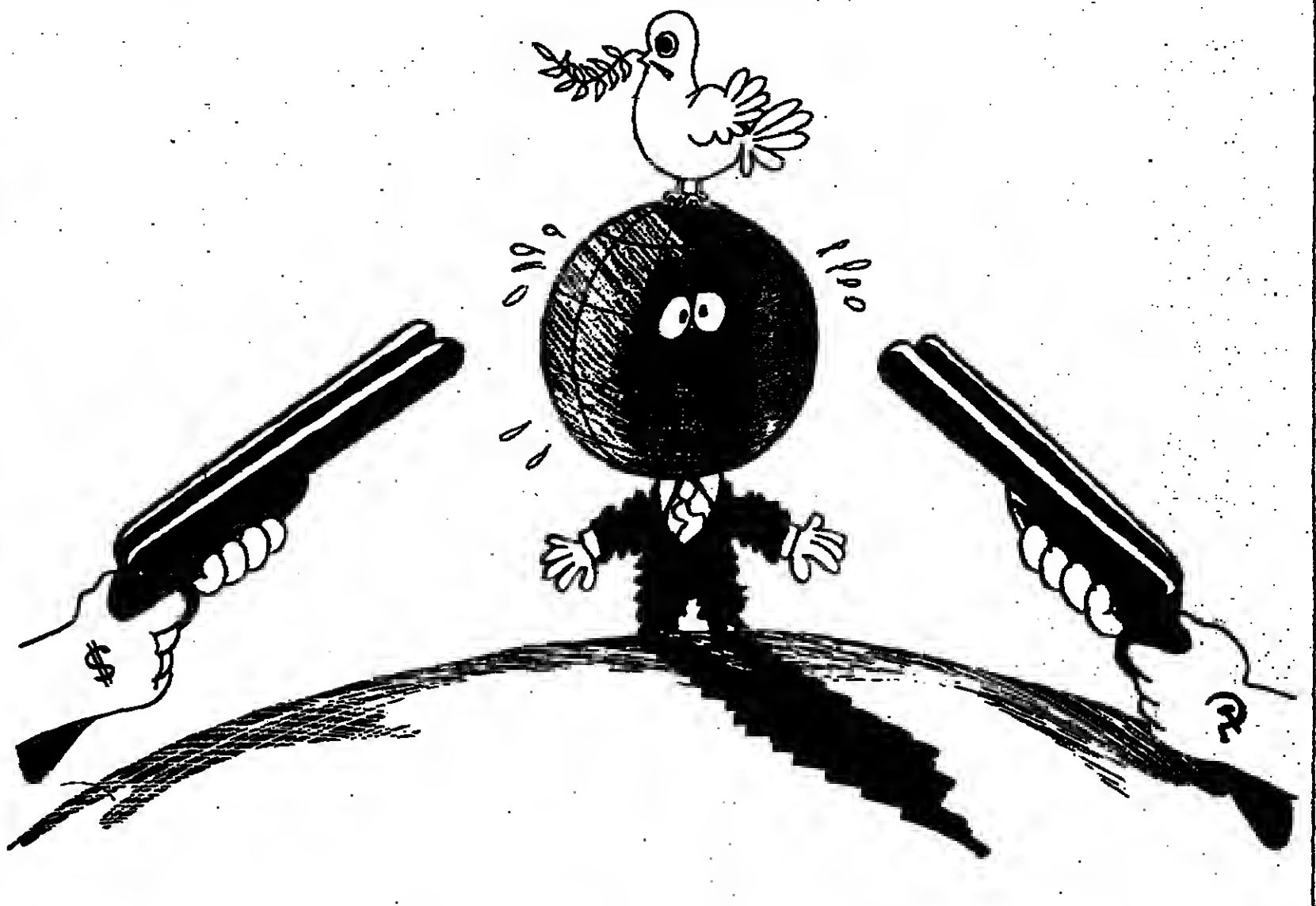
Much more dangerous situations could arise if the Kremlin were to feel itself obliged to intervene to prop up tottering Communist regimes in countries of more direct relevance to American vital interests than Afghanistan, Iran for instance, or Yugoslavia.

If the present unstable regime in Iran were to collapse, its most likely successor would be some form of Communist government, and this would confront both the Russians and the Americans with very difficult decisions. The Americans would be tempted to destabilize, the Russians to intervene to prop it up, and the consequences would be unforeseeable.

Equally, in Yugoslavia, if Marshal Tito's disappearance led to any kind of disintegration, and particularly to any abandonment of communism, the Russians would find it very difficult to keep their hands off. Yugoslavia is after all explicitly covered by the "Brezhnev doctrine" evolved at the time of the invasion of Czechoslovakia, under which, to quote its author's speech of November 1968: "When internal and external forces hostile to socialism attempt to turn the developments of any Socialist country in the direction of the restoration of the capitalist system, when a threat arises to the cause of socialism in that country, a threat to the security of the Socialist Commonwealth as a whole — it already becomes not only a problem for the people of that country but also a general problem, the concern of all Socialist countries."

Under this formulation the Soviet Union would feel itself practically obliged to intervene in Yugoslavia if its Socialist system, however heretical, were to be threatened, and here again the consequences would be unforeseeable.

The existing regimes in Iran and Yugoslavia are, for various reasons, unpopular both in Moscow and in Washington. But in both cases the consequences of their disappearance would be so dangerous that it is probably in the interests of both the superpowers to see that they do not occur. — (ORNS)



Using embargoed grain

By Matthew F. McHugh

WASHINGTON —

Now that Congress has reconvened, it must come to grips with a number of issues raised by President Jimmy Carter's decision to embargo grain shipments to the Soviet Union in retaliation for the invasion of Afghanistan, including what to do with surplus grain purchased by the government.

American farmers are rightly concerned that this grain could adversely influence the domestic market, exerting significant downward pressure on price. Although a drop in farm prices could have a modest, short-term impact on inflation at home, lower prices could also force many farmers to throw in the towel. Thus, it is important to isolate government purchases from domestic markets, a policy the Carter administration has said it will pursue but that depends solely on administrative discretion.

If grain purchases are isolated from domestic markets, what should be done with the grain? One view that enjoys substantial public support is that the surplus should be disposed of abroad in the developing states. At first blush, such a course may look attractive. It would allow the U.S. to continue putting pressure on the Soviet Union, help maintain crop prices at home, reduce federal budgetary pressures, and could be justified as another gesture to help starving and malnourished people.

At a time when per capita food production in Africa has dropped to a level 10 per cent below what it was a decade ago, and when one out of every three children on that continent will die before the

age of 5, an appeal to America's conscience may well be in order. Indeed, some of the surplus grain can be disposed of to meet emergency needs in countries such as Cambodia, East Timor, Somalia and Pakistan.

On the other hand, any systematic effort to dispose of surplus grain abroad could have devastating long-term consequences for the developing countries.

Those countries' deficits will increase dramatically in the next two decades unless they substantially improve their own agricultural productivity. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization has projected a next annual grain deficit exceeding 90 million metric tons by 1985 barring such progress, and the International Food Policy Research Institute, a private Washington-based research organization, puts the figure at 120 million metric tons by 1990.

The U.S. will not be able to make up deficits of these magnitudes, and this is why the major thrust of its development assistance in recent years has focused on improving agricultural productivity in the developing countries themselves. Much of the progress that has resulted from this new direction could be undermined if the U.S. were now to resume a policy of systematically dumping surplus grain abroad.

Small farmers scattered throughout the Third World would be deprived of incentives to improve production, and their governments might be encouraged to subsidize cheap food as a way of dampening public unrest.

One alternative to a policy of dumping would involve creation of a government-owned food reserve, as recommended in testimony to the presidential commission on world hunger.

This could be accomplished by early passage of the Food Security Act of 1979, legislation that has been co-sponsored by 96 members of the House.

Originally proposed by the late Sen. Hubert Humphrey, this bill would authorize the government to purchase and store up to 4 million metric tons of wheat. The reserve could be used solely to meet emergency food needs in developing countries when sufficient supplies were not available under the U.S. Food for Peace program, and would effectively isolate from domestic markets wheat now being purchased by the Carter administration.

Establishment of such a reserve would not solve all the problems created by the embargo. It would not, for example, be a means for a storing surplus feed grain. It also does not represent a complete answer to world food problems. However, as the U.N.-sponsored World Food Conference in Rome pointed out in 1974, reserves can play a vital role in helping to assure survival under emergency conditions and in promoting some measure of political stability.

Carter's decision to embargo grain is an appropriate response to Soviet aggression. Beyond demonstrating American resolve, however, the embargo provides Carter and Congress with a fresh opportunity to establish a permanent food reserve. It is an opportunity that should not be missed. — (NYT)

Repentance on the River Kwai

By Geoffrey Murray

TOKYO —

To some Japanese, Takashi Nagase is a troublemaker and even a traitor. He is trying to revive some particularly nasty skeletons hidden for years in forgotten cupboards.

Well, forgotten by most Japanese, perhaps — but not by thousands of Allied soldiers for whom the word "Japan" still means the barbarous treatment they received as prisoners-of-war in South-East Asia. For them, the passing of almost 40 years since they suffered — and thousands more died — to build the notorious Thai-Burma Railway has not diluted the bitterness.

Nagase, a 60-year-old English teacher, can understand that. He was an army interpreter at one of the POW camps and helped uncover the mass graves of the railway's victims after Japan's defeat. Now he devotes his life to two dreams: to make his fellow Japanese apologize — and to get ex-POWs to accept and shake hands. So far he has had scant success.

On Feb. 15 he and a small band of survivors marched across the bridge over the River Kwai in another act of penance and reconciliation. Nagase first made this symbolic gesture in 1977, when, after years of patient effort, he persuaded 41 Japanese Imperial Army veterans to return to the river and bow in apology before 13 ex-POWs — eight from Australia, two from America and one from Britain.

To Nagase's infinite regret he still cannot win over the British. "Of course, I can understand their bitterness," he says, "but I wish they could some-

how understand my sincerity to apologize and heal these old scars of war."

It hasn't been easy to get this far. Most Japanese don't want to hear about war crimes and many regard Nagase as a meddling freak. He fears attack from right-wing nationalist groups and has a long-standing feud with veterans' associations, who see him as something of a traitor. His bitterest foe is the All-Japan Railway Regiments' Association — the men who forced the POWs to carve the Thai-Burma Railway out of virgin jungle in appalling conditions.

"They have absolutely no feeling of guilt," Nagase complains bitterly. "To them, the railway doesn't mean atrocities. Rather, it was a great technological achievement. They are actually proud of what they have done."

"Most Japanese involved in the war don't feel any guilt today. First, they were just obeying orders of the emperor and had never been taught how to treat prisoners; secondly, any guilt was removed when the Allies hanged a few generals and atom-bombed Hiroshima and Nagasaki."

The former interpreter and intelligence agent insists he saw no atrocities during his few months at Kanchanaburi (until he contracted malaria). But he did see POWs forced to work with little food and no medical treatment.

The horror only really came home to him after the defeat, when he helped Allied teams comb the jungle for an estimated 20,000 bodies of neo-Asian slave laborers. For years he brooded over this, until the mid-1960s, when he was able to travel back to the area.

There he set himself the task of wiping out the bitterness. Despite fierce opposition on both sides Nagase has over-devised from his "lonely war" to be both a nation's conscience and conciliator of nations.

Earlier this month he gave Japanese the chance to read an account, in their own language, of the POWs' experiences, by translating and publishing the memoirs of former British prisoner Leo Rawlings.

Originally entitled "And the Dawn Came up Like Thunder", the book is now "Slaves of the Great Grand General". That reference to Emperor Hirohito will upset many Japanese, but Nagase doesn't care.

"They have got to realize why hate still exists and accept the responsibility for doing something about it." The next step will be to reach the stubborn British. After he returns from the River Kwai reunion, he will begin work on a book in English explaining the Japanese side. "I wouldn't speak up in the war because I would have been arrested and tortured, but now I can say that we were guilty of slow mass murder. We were worse than animals."

"I feel so strongly that I can't raise the Japanese flag even today. The white background reminds me of the bones of the defenseless victims, the red rising sun is their blood sinking into the earth. I don't think that any survivor can forget what happened. But if we apologize sincerely I hope they can, at least, accept the hand of friendship again." — (OFNS)

saudi press review

Newspapers Tuesday led with Crown Prince Fahd's meeting with visiting Iraqi Vice-President Ezzat Ibrahim, and reported Ibrahim as saying that the aim of Iraq's proposed Arab Charter was to ward off external threats. Prince Fahd's interview with *Newsweek* magazine to which he urged the free world to bear the responsibility of confronting the Soviet threat was carried as the lead story in *Al Medina*. *Al Yom* led with the Council of Ministers' approval to amend the terms and conditions of housing loans.

Al Medina frontpaged a denial by the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) of any links with the kidnapping of Salim Al-Lawzi in Beirut last Sunday. The newspapers gave front-page play to the visit of the Iraqi Vice-President who said his visit was within the framework of streamlining Arab ranks. They also reported Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al-Faisal's departure to

Tunis to attend an extraordinary session of Arab Foreign Ministers there.

Al Riyadh gave front-page highlight to the accreditation of the Israeli and Egyptian ambassadors in each other's country. It also reported on the front page that three Israelis were killed and others injured when an explosion destroyed a residential building in Haifa. In a front-page story *Al Yom* reported that Soviet troops were moving toward the Afghanistan borders with Pakistan while resistance was still strong in Kabul.

The newspapers covered a variety of subjects in their editorials Tuesday. They dealt with the Saudi-Iraqi talks in Riyadh, the situation in Lebanon as well as the normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel. *Al Medina* said Lebanon was facing a very crucial situation as a result of kidnapping, explosions and clashes. The paper suspected there were

some elements active in exploding the situation whenever they feel that reconciliation is approaching. Their objective seems to be facilitate Israel's hold in South Lebanon and to present a weak image of Arabs before world public opinion, the paper added. It urged every Lebanese and Arab in general to realize the gravity of the situation in Lebanon and to make efforts to overcome dissension and bring mutual love, unity and accord back to the war-torn country.

Al Riyadh said Israel shall use its embassy in Cairo as a spy network and a place to hatch plots against Arabs and Muslims inside the occupied territory and elsewhere. The normalization of relations between them would widen the gap between Arabs and open a large vista before the enemies of the Arabs and Muslims for subversive activities. The Zionists have been working to achieve these objectives ever since the

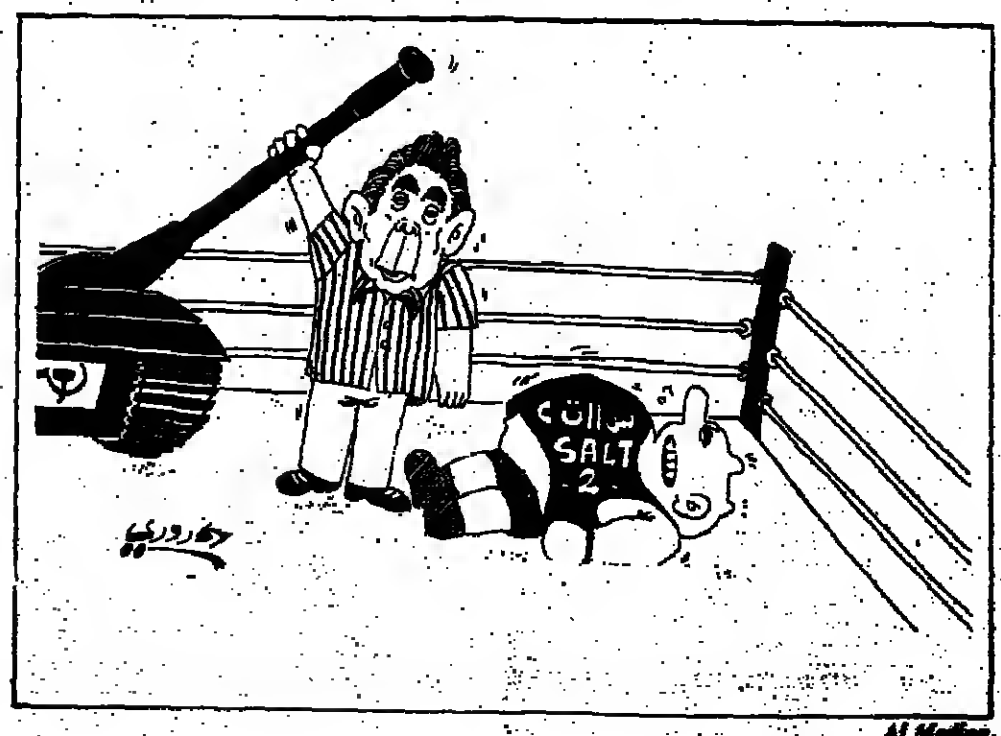
superpowers thrust Israel on the Arab land, it said.

Al Bilad, however, expressed confidence that the Egyptian people will eventually refuse to accept the normalization of their country's relations with their enemy. It is only natural for them to do so, since Israel has been seeking their blood and jeopardizing its economy by creating a host of problems for them. The continued opposition by the Egyptians provides evidence that the normalization process is nothing more than a child born dead and has no value. The paper added that the Egyptian opposition has its roots in the country's independence and freedom at a time when they see the Zionist flag hoisted in Cairo.

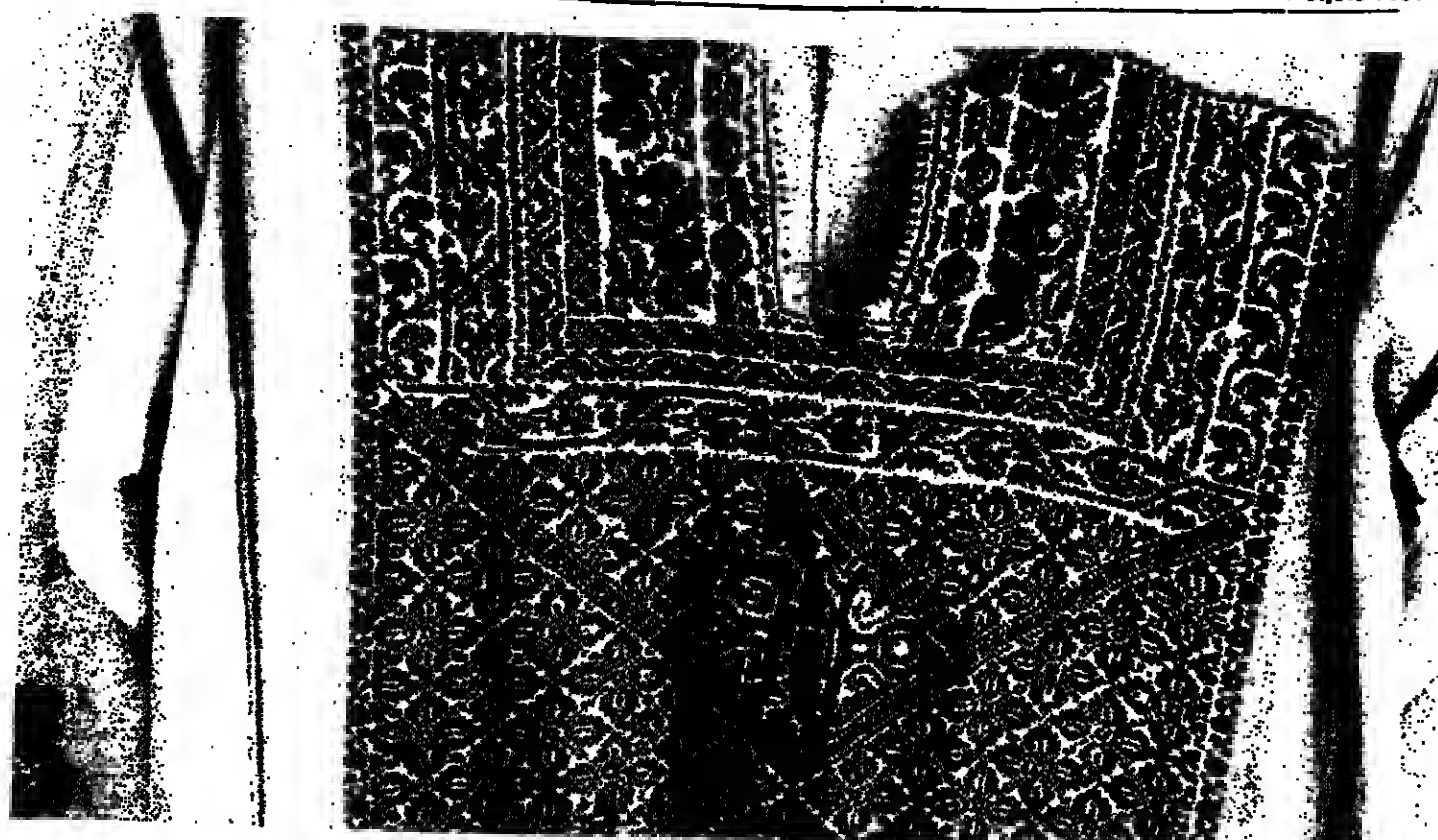
Okaz said that discussions between Crown Prince Fahd and Iraqi Vice-President Ezzat Ibrahim assumed great importance in view of the continuous deteriorating situation in the Arab

world. It is time that mutual understanding must be consolidated among the Arab states, so that they streamline their ranks and successfully confront the challenges. The paper said that Saudi-Iraqi political weight would provide a positive propelling force to the Arab position in the confrontation of hostile acts against the region.

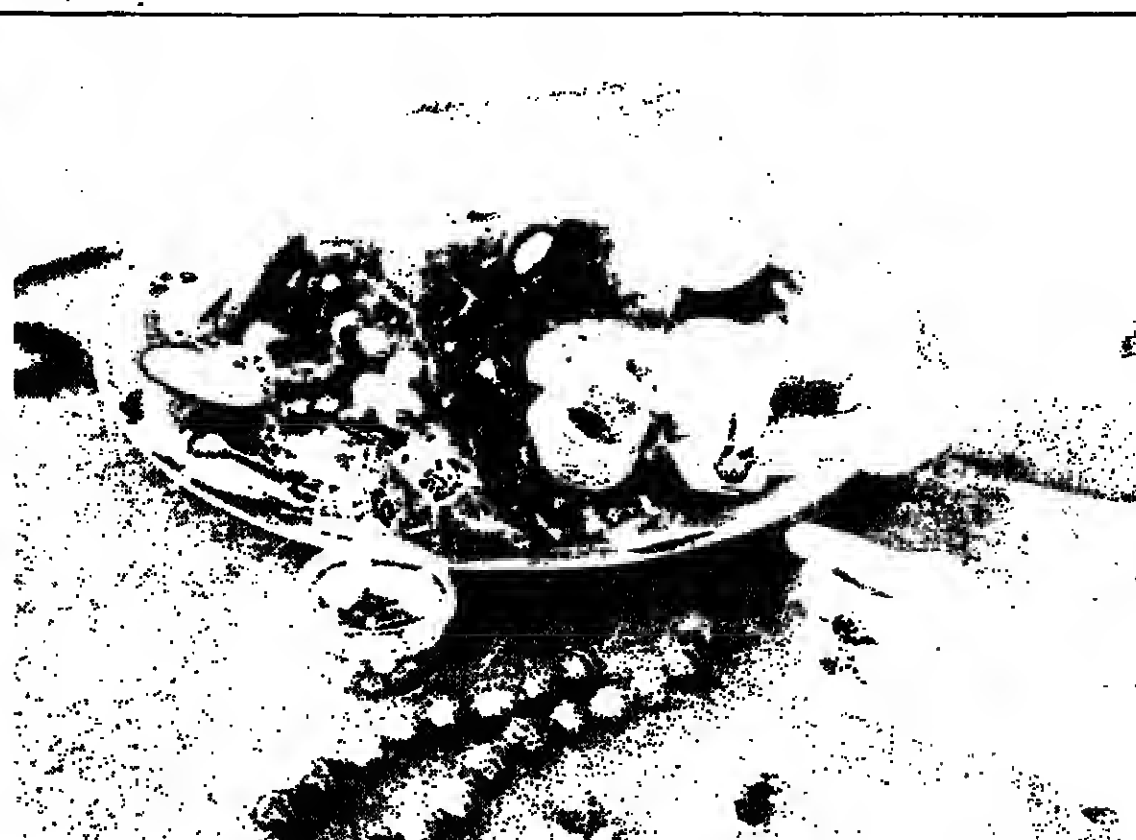
The paper stressed that perpetual coordination and consultation among Arab states would provide them with enough strength to confront the challenges now threatening the very foundations of the Arab entity. The Arab-Israeli dispute makes it a matter of extreme necessity for the Arabs to achieve coherence among them in the light of the strategy laid down by the summit conferences of Baghdad and Tunis. Slogans ought to be transformed into tangible realities — a matter that will not only frighten Israel but all the enemies of the Arabs, concluded the paper.



هكذا من الاصل



A qabbah (chest panel) from a Syrian bedu wedding dress with embroidered rose chains and geometrical designs.



The artist at work

Piecing it all together

Story and photographs
By Kathy Lund

JEDDAH — Hidden treasures from Arabia's past are being given a new lease of life by Jeddah's, Anne Marie Weiss.

American-born Anne Marie has been captivated by such pieces as the hand embroidery of bedu wedding dresses and the craftsmanship of bedu jewelry.

Perfect examples are becoming hard to find — and expensive — yet the souks of the Kingdom and beyond are treasure chests of bits and pieces.

It is these bits and pieces which Anne Marie is restoring, or revamping, both to

retain the intrinsic beauty of the art and to bring it once again back to life, albeit sometimes in a different form.

The intricate hand embroidery of well-worn bedu wedding dresses, some almost threadbare, is removed and sewn on to a new dress; other gowns in better condition are stitched and cleaned wherever necessary so they may once again be worn; trinkets from bedu jewelry, long separated from the original pieces, are restrung with complementary beads to make a completely new necklace.

The results of such labors are then sold at local bazaars ... if they're not snapped up beforehand by enthusiastic friends and neighbors.

The paths leading to such a hobby — in fact it's almost a full-time occupation now — converged here in Jeddah when Anne-Marie's husband moved to Saudi Arabia to become general manager of a construction firm.

She had become interested in the gowns of the Middle East when her husband, a Syrian by birth, was involved in designing and selling Syrian caftans for the U.S. market.

When they came to this part of the world Anne-Marie, was instantly fascinated by the suqs. To her delight one day she discovered in the carpentry section of the suq in Damascus a little shop selling the bedu dresses. She rummaged through a pile in the corner and found two tattered but beautiful gowns which

she bought immediately. She also recalls with regret seeing some embroidered sleeves which she passed by. Now she would be delighted with such a find.

Though this first little treasure chest was later destroyed in a fire which razed the suq Anne Marie now scours other shops whenever she is in Damascus, but the dresses are becoming harder to find and much more expensive.

"They doubled in price last year," she said, "and they keep going up all the time."

Here she sells the dresses for prices ranging from SR50 to SR350 depending on condition and craftsmanship.

Traditionally, the dresses are delicately embroidered by a bedu bride and worn on her wedding day. They then continue in use. Styles and patterns vary according to regions but in general the embroidery covers the yoke, sleeve cuffs, back panels and seams of

the dress. Patterns follow custom and are usually designs such as rose and flower chains, birds or geometric lines.

Anne Marie's other craft, restoring and remodelling bedu jewelry, was also the happy result of a combination of interests and local conditions. She had already become interested in the bedu jewelry of Syria and Saudi Arabia and also found that Jeddah offered a variety of beads brought in by pilgrims. The outcome was the idea to make full use of both to create a new piece of jewelry, but one which highlighted the character of the bedu trinket.

The beads and other items needed to make the jewelry aren't always plentiful, but during the Pilgrimage the streets of Jeddah offer a colorful and varied supply. Reflecting the origins of the pilgrims, the beads include amber, ebony and bone from Africa, bloodstone and carnelian from Pakistan, and glass

and wood from several places.

Anne Marie also combs the suqs for other beads and for the pieces of bedu work. Her favorite hunting grounds, apart from Damascus, are Bab Mecca and the Yemeni Suq in Jeddah and the Women's Suq in Riyadh.

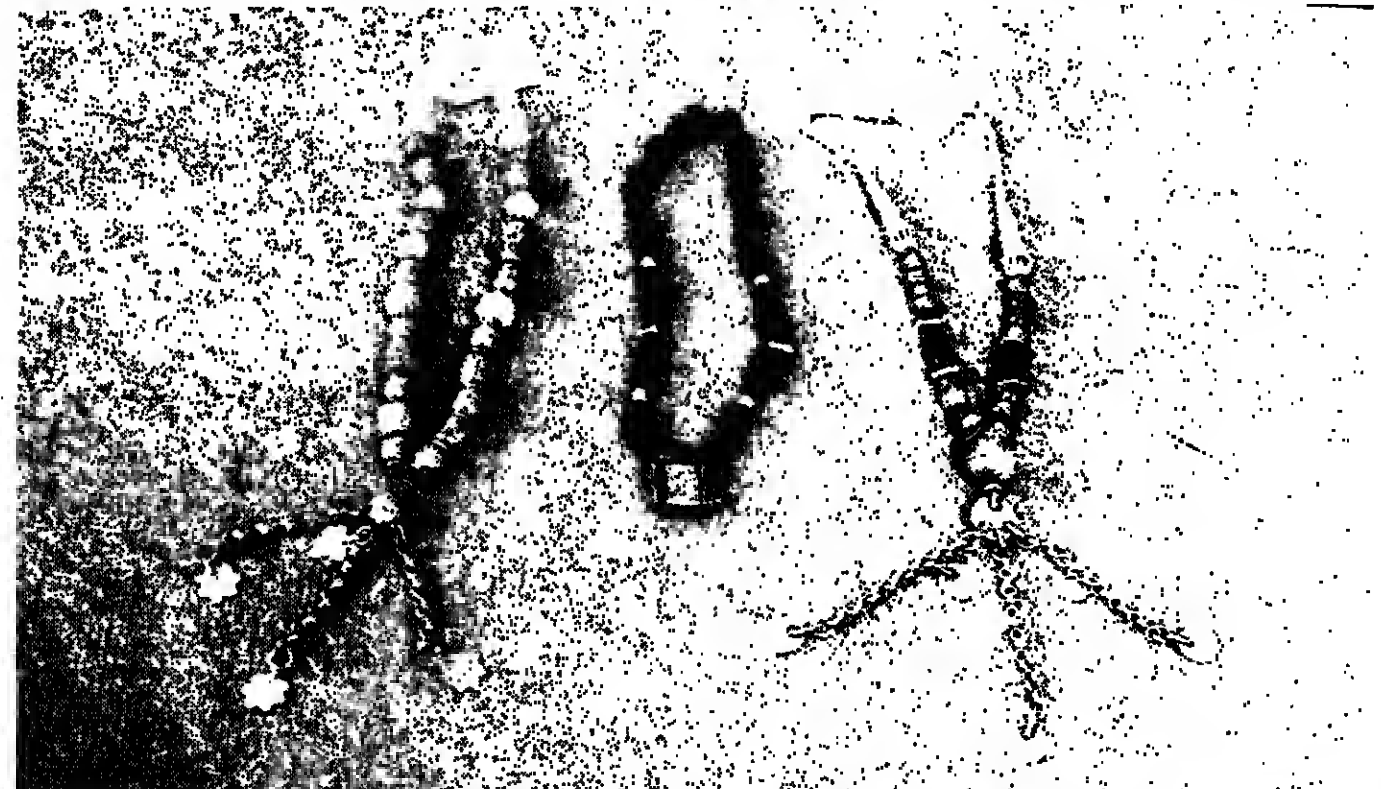
The most common pieces she uses are Turkish coins, the small cylindrical cases called "hirz" which often contain a rolled piece of paper with a reading from the Koran, small chains and silver beads. Any particularly fine pieces of bedu jewelry she keeps for her own collection.

Her suq expeditions, especially those in Damascus, also yield other treasures including copper and brass antiques, inlaid wood work and filigree silver from Aleppo.

Apart from her love of local antiques and crafts, Anne Marie, a Fulbright scholar with a Master's Degree from the University of Missouri, paints, and enjoys collecting Arab recipes.



One of Anne Marie Weiss's antique pieces from her own collection, the lower necklace has three cylindrical hirzes which sometimes contain Koranic verses. The upper necklace is Syrian and includes Turkish coins.



Three necklaces reconstructed by Anne Marie Weiss using pieces from Bab Mecca and the Riyadh Women's Suq — Pakistani bloodstone, carnelian and ebony from Africa.



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Eric the Gold

By Ted Green

The Los Angeles Times

LAKE PLACID, — Like it or not, nobody at the 13th Winter Olympics was more of a celebrity than Eric Heiden, who leaves this little mountain town with more gold medals than 90 per cent of the 37 countries who competed.

Heiden, speed skating's be-all and end-all, won his second gold in two tries, in Saturday's men's 5,000-meter race.

His time of 7:02.29 for the 12-plus laps around the ice oval off Main Street was an Olympic record, by more than 22 seconds. And it was 59 seconds faster than the 7:03.28 turned in by Norway's Kai Arne Stenhammet, who took the silver medal. Stenhammet

He flies around the ice tracks at 30 miles per hour, 8 mph faster than the fastest of track sprinters and only 8 or 10 mph slower than the fastest horses.

met's teammate, Tom Erik Orholm, skated the 3.1-3 miles in 7:05.29 to win the bronze.

Heiden, who had won the shortest of five men's speed skating races, the 500 meters, on Friday, came back 24 hours later in a race 10 times as long and won again.

Even if being to refrigerated ice what Mark Spitz was to chlorinated water doesn't interest Eric Heiden; even if he'd rather go home when this is over, re-enroll at the University of Wisconsin, and get lost in the shuffle on campus; even though he wants to backpack, bike, canoe and play college hockey rather than wind up a cover boy on cereal boxes, he is a star now. ABC has seen to that.

But as easily as he flies around ice tracks at 30 miles per hour, 8 mph faster than the fastest track sprinters, and only 8 or 10 mph slower than the fastest horses, that's how easily this son of a Madison, Wisconsin

orthopedic surgeon seems to handle the stardom he says he never wanted.

"I'm excited," he says when asked why he seems so relaxed and level-headed even now. "But you have to relax when talking to you guys (newsmen) or you can lose it."

The skater who is turning the traditional sport of the Dutch into a showcase for an All-American boy out of a Rockwell painting, has so far been worth his weight in gold, even at today's prices.

Saturday morning, as snow continued to fall here in the Adirondacks, Heiden made short work of the 5,000, just as he did the 500 the day before.

The 500, which Heiden also won in Olympic-record time, was over, for all intents and purposes, 38 seconds after it started because Heiden skated in the very first pair by lock of the draw.

This time he drew the second pair, so the 5000 took a little longer — say, 40 minutes.

It lasted that long only because the Norwegian Stenhammet, world-record holder in the 500, was ahead of Heiden's pace approaching the last 800 meters as he skated in the fourth of 15 pairs. But Stenhammet started using both arms to pump then, two at the most physically punishing point of the race.

Heiden, by contrast, never pumped anything except his powerful thighs, which are so big that his gold suit looks like it's stuffed with hams.

Heiden's winning time was roughly three seconds slower than his personal best in the 5,000. Small amounts of snow that stuck to the ice, plus wind, had something to do with that.

Stenhammet's world record of 6:56.90 was set at a high-altitude rink at Medeo in the Soviet Union. Conditions there are most nearly perfect. Seven of the nine world bests in men's and women's speed skating were established on that track.

Eric Heiden, who is at least temporarily making an inherently dull sport exciting to his countrymen, doesn't much care where he skates, so long as he's in his element.

Here he was rarely seen without a multi-colored stocking cap, which he wore to the oval, at Olympic Village, to press conferences and to the award ceremonies at Mirror Lake.

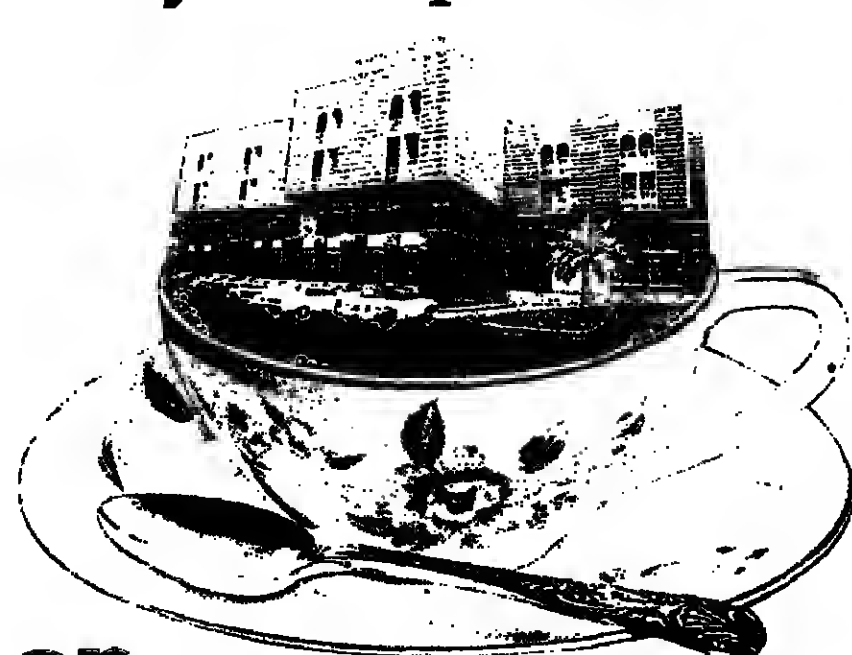
"My girlfriend (a Norwegian) gave me the cap," he said. "I think she'd be mad if I didn't wear it."



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Gulf insurance firms agree on Arab syndicate

ABU DHABI, Feb. 26 (R) — Seven insurance companies from six Gulf countries have agreed to set up an "Arab war insurance syndicate" in an apparent attempt to lessen international control of the huge insurance market.

The syndicate will take over civil commotion and war risks of vessels operating in the Gulf region and flying flags of Arab countries in the Gulf, Waf Jabsheh said.

The syndicate would open on July 1 but underwriting would commence from January next year, said Jabsheh managing director of the Abu Dhabi National Insurance Company.

Replying to a question Jabsheh said the syndicate was a result of a decision since reversed by London underwriters last year to double war risk premiums on ships navigating in the Gulf.

A spokesman for the London Institute of Underwriters said in London that the decision on whether to charge additional war premiums was made on an individual basis and changed from day to day.

Jabsheh said the syndicate should not be considered as a confrontation with the international market, adding, "In fact, we sincerely look forward to close cooperation with the world market, especially the London Market."

The agreement was signed at the end of a three-day conference, attended by investment firms from the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

Jabsheh said the syndicate would be backed by the collective liability of the signatory insurance companies until next January when it would start accumulating reserves from its own business operations.

"We expect a 10-12 million dollar business the first year," he said.

The syndicate's general body will meet in Dubai on March 29 to appoint the various administrative bodies and decide on the venue of the organization.

OPEC special meeting possibly in May: Ortiz

NEW YORK, Feb. 26 (R) — The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) will probably hold a special meeting of oil ministers in Saudi Arabia in the first week of May to consider a long-term plan for oil price rises, its secretary general Rene Ortiz said.

An OPEC strategy committee last week proposed automatic quarterly oil price rises under a plan which has to be approved by the 13-member organization.

Ortiz told reporters Monday that the special meeting could be held in Taif, Saudi Arabia, in view of Saudi Arabia's predominant role in founding the OPEC committee.

He said OPEC might not be able to meet projected oil demand because its reserves would be depleted too quickly.

Ortiz forecast at a business conference here that OPEC oil supplies for the whole of this year would total between 26 and 30 million barrels a day, compared with the present OPEC oil output of 30 million.

Supplies would total 35 to 40 million barrels a day by 1985 and 46 to 50 million barrels by 1990, but he questioned whether OPEC would be willing to satisfy the demand.

Ortiz said a vital factor in the oil outlook was the steadily growing internal energy consumption of OPEC member countries themselves.

He projected this demand would rise to about six million barrels a day by 1990 from two million at present and possibly triple by the year 2000.

"This can only mean, that for some member countries, the day is not far off when they will no longer have availabilities for export," he said.

Ortiz also warned oil consuming nations that they must accept the need for gradual increases in the price of oil, after adjustment to take account of inflation.

The secretary general said present crude oil prices may be too low to stimulate the development of alternative energy sources.

He added that OPEC felt conservation measures by industrialized countries "so far have fallen short of constituting a real concession to the exhaustibility" of OPEC oil reserves.

But Ortiz said the OPEC's output could rise by as much as two-thirds by the end of the decade.

Ortiz, in a speech to an international organization of business and economics students, said "OPEC supplies, until the turn of the century, ranges as follows: 1980, 26 million to 30 million barrels per day, 1985, 35 million to 40 million per day, 1990, 46 million to 50 million barrels per day."

A barrel contains 42 gallons. OPEC's current production is estimated at 30 million to 32 million barrels per day, providing one half the world's oil supply.

The 13-nation organization supplies 30 per cent of U.S. oil needs.

Ortiz said last week he would try to convince other members of the 13-nation Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) of the importance of holding an emergency meeting.

Otaiba has been calling for the meeting since early last month but Venezuelan Oil Minister Humberto Calderon Berti, whose country currently chairs OPEC, said recently there was no chance of it being held in the near future.

The Iraqi news agency said Otaiba stated

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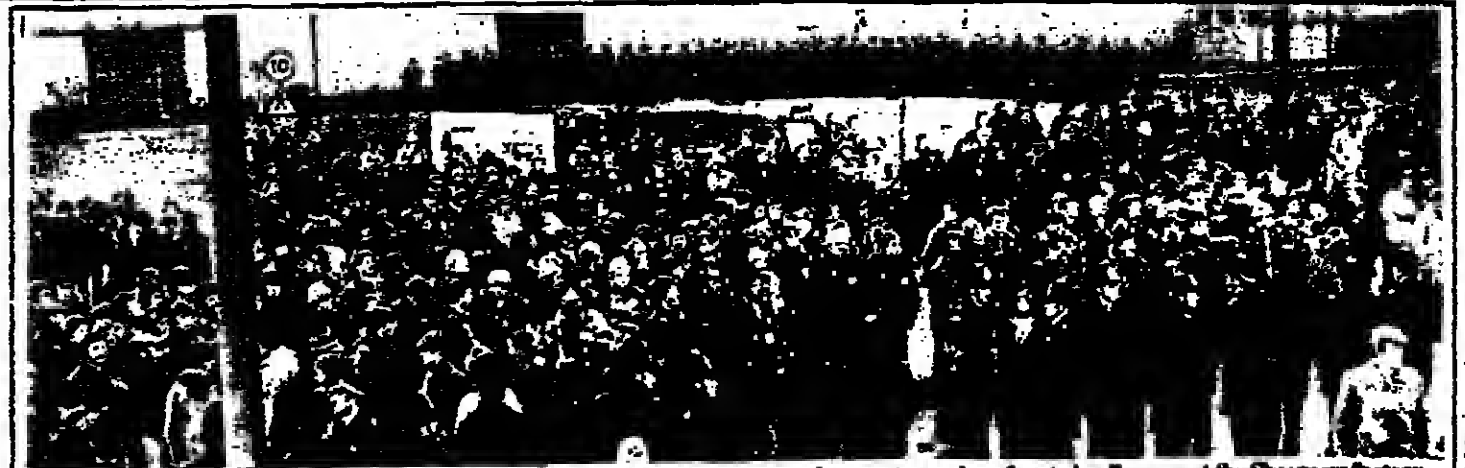
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PICKETS 'N' POLICE: More than 1,000 pickets have flown in from all over the country and confronted policemen at the Sheerness factory, one of Britain's significant private steel works to remain open during the present steel strike — now going into its seventh week. Steel workers and blastfurnacemen continue demanding 20 per cent pay hikes despite the settlements of two other unions, and defections from their ranks.

U.K. steel unions expel rebellious members

LONDON, Feb. 26 (AP) — Union leaders angered by a rebellion against Britain's 54-year-old national steel strike expelled 600 members on Monday. Another 3,000 union rebels dealt the strike a severe setback by returning to work at two of Britain's biggest privately owned steel companies.

Leaders of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation revoked union membership for employees of the privately owned Sheerness Steel Company because they had refused to join the job action. The plant, on England's southeast coast near London, has continued to operate during the wage dispute despite hundreds of strikers picketing the site daily.

"We are very concerned about the position at Sheerness," said union general secretary Bill Sims in announcing the expulsions. He told reporters the members were thrown out of the union for trying to persuade other workers at private steel mills to disobey the strike call.

The independent steel firms have been hard hit by the strike and estimate their losses so far at nearly 40 million pounds (\$92 million).

Derek Norton, Hadfield's managing director, stressed in a radio interview, "The unions are just about bleeding us to

death. We've lost millions over the last few months in disputes that don't concern us."

Don Ramage, a union organizer at Hadfield's who went back to work commented, "With many private firms in a serious position, I think that before the end of the week you'll see a lot of private sector companies begin work."

The Hadfield workers joined the strike 11 days ago after a massive picket of their plants. But they changed their minds Sunday after their bosses warned that a long shutdown could ruin the company and leave them without jobs.

More than 100 police officers ringed Hadfield's, scene of bitter clashes with pickets since the strike began Jan. 2. But the returning workers were met by only a handful of pickets.

More than 2,000 workers at Round Oak were secretly driven into their plants in a fleet of buses to avoid clashes with picketing strikers.

renewed at the end of 1981.

The panel is considering legislation to terminate abruptly the 5-year-old Maritime and Trade Agreement under which the Soviet Union has relatively open access to 40 U.S. ports.

"Coupled with the existing embargo of grain sales to the USSR, the closing of our ports will clearly demonstrate the extent to which we disapprove of Soviet aggression in Afghanistan," committee chairman John Murphy said.

"We believe it is important to have steps in reserve which we can take in response to future challenges and we believe the maritime agreement properly fits into this category," Barry testified.

"We believe that the Soviet leaders

counted on a considerably less determined reaction and one which would quickly pass as happened in 1968 after the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia," he said. "They miscalculated badly."

"They will pay a concrete and lasting price for their aggression and will meet with firm resistance should they attempt to carry out similar steps elsewhere," he said.

Administration officials said the measure, if passed, would cost the Soviets more than \$255 million a year. In 1979, some 1,300 Soviet vessels called U.S. ports.

Meanwhile, the administration on Monday banned the export of phosphates to the Soviet Union as a further step in efforts to express displeasure with Soviet military involvement in Afghanistan.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26 (AP) — The administration of U.S. President Jimmy Carter told Congress Monday it cannot now support a ban on Soviet shipping vessels in U.S. ports in response to Moscow's military intervention in Afghanistan, but that the option is being held in reserve.

Steps taken so far by Carter to protest the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan have stopped short of breaking existing international agreements, administration officials told a House committee.

"We believe it is important to preserve the basic U.S.-Soviet technical arrangements we have negotiated in the past few years," Deputy Assistant Secretary Robert L. Barry told the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries committee.

Samuel B. Memrow, a U.S. Commerce Department official, said that closing U.S. ports to the Soviets "is one of the options available to us but not one of the options we're prepared to take at this time."

He said the agreement was negotiated "to facilitate long-term trade" with the Soviets and, in any event, the agreement is up for

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Foreign Exchange Rates

Quoted at 7:00 P.M. Tuesday

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EXCHANGE RATES **أسعار العملات الدولية**

U.S. \$

الدولار

SDR

حقوق السحب الخاصة

London Interbank
Spot Dollar Middle Rates
as quoted by Bank of America IFC

Exchange Rates for the IMF's SDR

	Feb. 21	Feb. 22	Feb. 23	US Dollar	Feb. 21	Feb. 22	Feb. 23
Britain	2.2673	2.2775	2.2775	Australian Dollar	1.13229	1.30976	1.30976
Switzerland	1.5385	1.6908		Austrian Schilling	1.18113	1.18975	1.18975
Italy	808.850	812.250		Belgian Franc	37.2329	37.3475	37.3475
France	4.859	4.7300		Canadian Dollar	1.157015	1.15042	1.15042
W. Germany	1.7455	1.7600		Deutsche Mark	2.2100	2.2066	2.2066
Netherlands	1.8204	1.8375		French Franc	3.37219	3.58480	3.58480
Belgium	28.390	28.390		Iranian Rial	32.4638	92.3553	92.3553
Belgian F. C.	28.390	28.390		Italian Lira	105.3	105.3	105.3
Denmark	5.4460	5.4780		Japanese Yen	322.955	322.954	322.954
Norway	4.8745	4.8718		Dutch Guilder	2.53519	2.53048	2.53048
Sweden	4.1190	4.1170		Spanish Peseta	8.3973	8.41388	8.41388
Japan	245.390	247.480		Pound Sterling	0.574658	0.572299	0.572299
Austria	12.4900	12.5700		Saudi Arabian Riyal	4.40273	4.49424	4.49424
Portugal	1.1100	1.1154		Swedish Krona	38.0152	37.6700	37.6700
Australia	1.1023	1.1013		Swiss Franc	5.47084	5.47178	5.47178
Spain	17.125	16.915		Danish Kroner	7.13230	7.17084	7.17084
Finland	3.7140	3.7230		Indonesian Rupiah	38.0152	38.7440	38.7440

£ (STERLING)

الجنيه

Closing Spot Sterling Rates
at London

	February 21	February 22	February 23
USA	2.2770-2.2780		
Canada	2.8220-2.8240		
Switzerland	3.7750-3.7790		
Germany	4.8200-4.8210		
France	9.3980-9.4060		
Netherlands	6.4075-6.4125		
Belgian C.	44.50-44.58		
Belgian F.	68.46-68.56		
Sweden	UNAV		
Denmark	UNAV		
Norway	11.1175-11.1275		
Italy	104.00-104.80		
Spain	182.00-182.20		
Portugal	108.70-109.20		
Austria	28.56-28.61		
Japan	562.25-563.25		
Ireland	1.0700-1.0785		

THE ECU

اليورو

Exchange Rates for the ECU
Official Brussels Fixing

	February 22
FR/BUL Can	48.040
Deutsche Mark	2.4999
Dutch Guilder	2.75215
Pound Sterling	0.632736
Portuguese Escudo	27.76764
French Franc	5.87210
Italian Lira	1154.68
Japanese Yen	0.0073992
US Dollar	1.42146
Swiss Franc	2.0988
Spanish Peseta	96.1668
Yemeni Rial	2.54589
Norwegian Krone	6.95336
Canadian Dollar	1.63272
Portuguese Escudo	27.76764
Austrian Schilling	17.29307
Finnish Markka	5.25995
Japanese Yen	0.0073992
Greek Drachma	55.57640

GOLD

الذهب

Closing Gold Prices

Norway	35,885	35,850
Sweden	42,015	41,885
Italy	2,161	2,150
Austria	13,968	13,868
Spain	2,625	2,600
Portugal	3,700	3,680
Japan	47,710	47,705
Finland	47,110	47,010

(in US dollars per dry ton)

	Feb. 21 Closing	Feb. 22 Closing
London	667.50	672.50
Paris	638.73	639.60
Hamburg	644.70	644.97
Frankfurt	666.00	637.50
Hong Kong	648.67	647.47

COMMODITIES اسعار السلع والمعادن

London Commodity and Metal Exchange Closing Prices

Pounds Sterling per metric ton (except Silver)

ALUMINIUM النحاس

	Feb. 21 Closing	Feb. 22 Closing
Spot	908-937	909-921
Three months	947-948	939-934
Sales	7,500 tons	4,000 tons
	Market easier	

COPPER نحاس

	£ per tonne
Whores	
Cash	1235-1237
Three months	1221-1222
Sales	11,425 tons
	Market steady at lower levels
Cathodes	
Cash	1183-1185
Three months	1183-1184
Sales	1,050 tons
	Market easier

COBOL قهوة

	£ per tonne
March	1498-1494
May	1539-1537
July	1581-1580
September	1586-1585
November	1595-1594
January	1600-1575
March	1595-1589
	Select 7,500 lots of 5 tonnes.

ROBUSTA COFFEE قهوة

	£ per tonne
March	1498-1494
May	1539-1537
July	1581-1580
September	1586-1585
November	1595-1594
January	1600-1575
March	1595-1589
	Select 7,500 lots of 5 tonnes.

ICO COFFEE قهوة

	£ per tonne
Other Milled Arabica	163.65
Robusta	160.75
Comp. Daily Prices (1976)	182.29
30 Day Moving Average	180.25
Other Mld Roba (1968)	163.59
Colombiana	184.00
Brazilian	177.37
Comp. Daily Prices (1968)	173.73
Bremer-Hamburg Price	173.74

LEAD	رصاص
£ per tonne	
Cash	515-518 498-499
Three months	514-516 494-497
Sales	5,650 tonne 1,525 tonne
Market order	

	£ per tonne	
Standard		
Cash	7520-7530	7530-7540
Three months	7530-7540	7540-7550
Sales	510 ton	535 ton
	Market steady	
High Grade		
Cash	7530-7550	7530-7540
Three months	7530-7550	7540-7550
Sales	Nil lots	Nil tons
	Market stable	

ZINC	الزنك	
	£ per tonne	
Cash	268.5-269.5	301-355
Three months	307-350	337-502
Sales	4,000 tons	2,050 tons
	Market steady but quiet	

Capital International Stock Market Indices		
	Feb. 21	Feb. 20
World	122.3	123.8
	Up 1.6	

May	(NT)	(NT)
July	(NT)	(NT)
October	(NT)	(NT)
December	(NT)	(NT)
March	(NT)	(NT)

Due to no active trading there were nil lots traded

COTTON القطن

Liverpool spot cotton and shipment prices in U.S. cents per pound (previous levels in brackets) as supplied by a leading trading company.

Major international Thursday included:
 U.S. Memphis (1 1/16 inch strict middling).
 Feb-Mar 95.50 offered (95.50).
 U.S. California (1 1/8 inch strict middling).
 Feb-Mar 103.50 offered (100.50).
 Soviet (1 1/16 inch strict middling).
 Feb-Mar 100.00 offered (90.00).
 Egypt GSA 56 FG, 134.15 offered (JUNCH).
 Sudan Barmak (1 1/8 inch).
 Feb-Mar No. 35, unquoted offered (194.73).
 Feb-Mar No. 85, unquoted offered (115.81).
 Feb-Mar No. C26, unquoted offered (108.19).
 Paraguay (1 3/32 inch).
 Feb-Mar 95.50 (94.00).
 Mexico (1 1/16 inch strict middling).
 Feb-Mar 95.50 offered (93.50).

Europe	110.2	108.9	10.2
U.S. (1)	128.1	129.3	11.8
U.K.	159.8	159.9	0.1
Japan	255.4	258.0	0.9
Canada (2)	200.5	201.7	5.8
Germany	88.5	88.4	0.0
France	128.7	127.4	4.8
Australia	UNAV	122.3	3.7
Spain	51.8	51.7	0.0
Switzerland	81.5	88.7	11.3
Netherlands	82.5	88.7	10.0
Belgium	91.4	91.5	0.3
Sweden	111.3	111.4	0.4
Norway	104.5	102.7	1.3
Norway	265.7	265.6	0.0
Australia	118.7	120.0	0.9
Australia	123.9	123.8	0.0

(1) NYSE (2) TSE
Index converted to Jan. 1970 Base
Base 1 Jan 1870 equals 100

ROTTERDAM WHEAT

Prices CIF: (In US \$/25 Cwt Spring
and/or Northern Dink North)

Prices in US\$/Cwt

February	205.00	205.00
March	206.00	206.00
April-May	197.00	197.00
June-July	197.00	197.00
July-August	204.00	204.00

SOUTHERN U.S.

Spot	230.00	230.00
Feb-March	232.00	232.00
Apr-May	235.00	235.00
Nov-March	254.50	254.00

B.C.

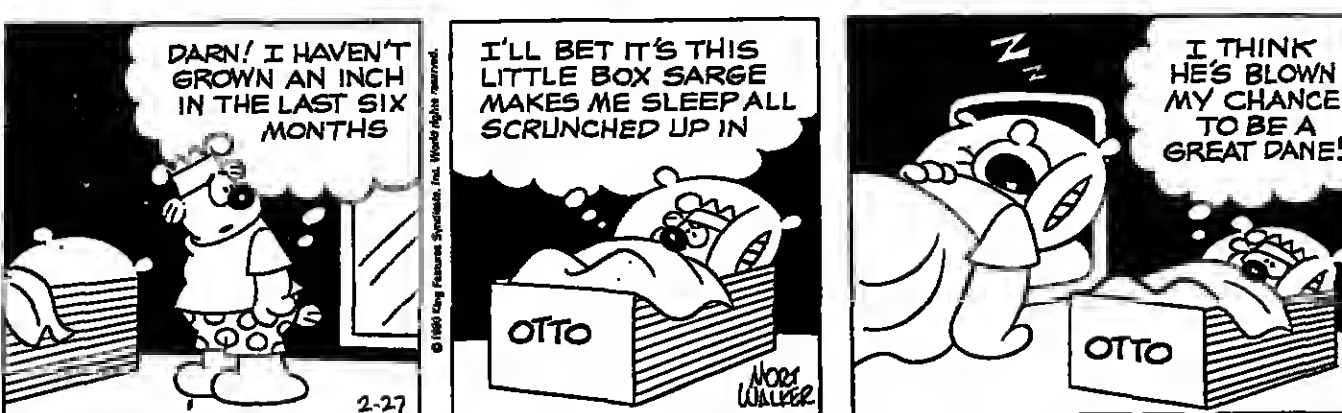
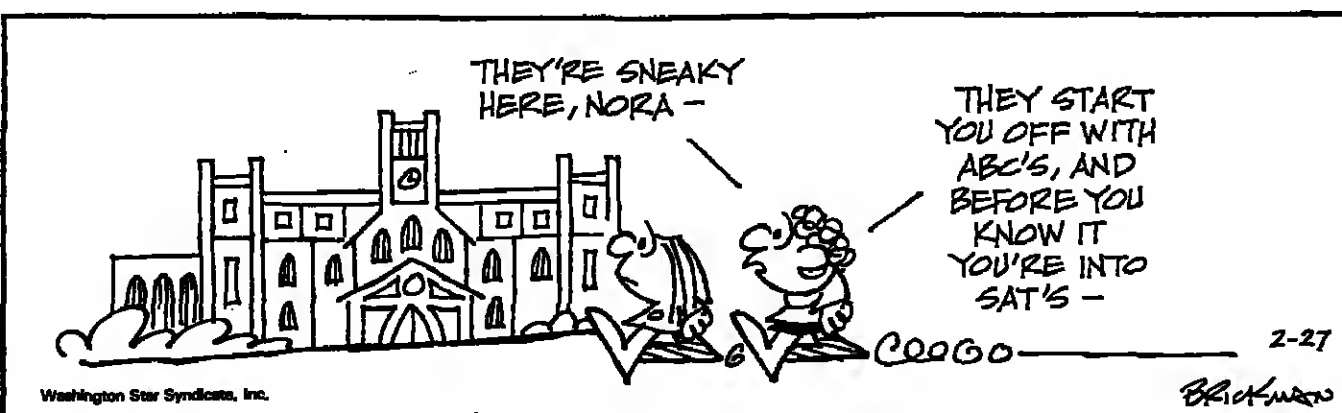
SMALL SOCIETY

BLONDIE

BEETLE BAILEY

HAGAR

WIZARD



DENNIS THE MENACE



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Crossword

by THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Fragment

4 High-priced

11 Unearthly

12 Chrysalis

13 Melodramatic

14 Actor: slang

15 Actor: slang

16 Mining find

17 Tenant's

18 Spoken

22 Line up

23 July

27 Australian

28 Marcupial

29 "A-1 Time"

30 "A-1 Time"

31 "Oliver"

32 Cow, e.g.

34 Health club

37 Declare

38 Hold on

44 Declare void

45 Large spoon

46 Gaggie's

47 Turnabout

1 Just a -

2 Lord's child

3 Late ship-

4 Moroccan

5 Island

6 Island

7 Island

8 Island

9 Island

10 Island

11 Island

12 Island

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16 Island

17 Island

18 Island

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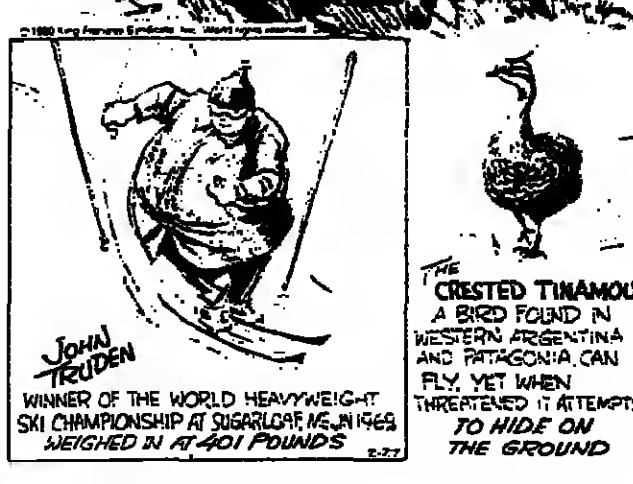
47 Island

48 Island

49 Island

50 Island

Believe It or Not!



Contract Bridge

B. Jay Becker

Famous Hand

West dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH

AK J 8 7 6 5

Q 10 9

K J 3 2

A

WEST

K 10 3

K 8 6

Q 10 9 8 4

J 7 5 4 2

EAST

Q 4 2

Q 9 7 5 2

Q 10 8

K J 9 6 3

SOUTH

A Q 9

A J 4

A Q 6 5

Q 10 8

The bidding:

West North East South

Pass 1 Pass 3 5

Pass 4 Pass 4 C

Pass 4 NT Pass 5

Pass 5 NT Pass 6

Pass 7 Pass 6

Opening lead - ten of diamonds.

A partnership generally

does best by choosing

trumps the suit where

they have the greatest

number of cards. It

follows that they

usually select a com-

bined eight-card suit

rather than a com-

bined seven-card suit,

or a nine-card suit over

an eight-card suit, or

ten over nine, and so

on. However, the rule

has its exceptions. There

are times when an

eight-card suit, di-

vided 4-4, serves as a

better trump than a

nine-card suit. This

hand from the 1956

provides an example.

If the hand is played

at spades or notrump,

declarer makes twelve

tricks, period. At

one table North-South

got seven spades, au-

tomatically down one,

and at six other

tables the final con-

tract was either six

spades or six not-

rump.

At only two tables

was the excellent

contract of seven

diamonds reached. Played

in diamonds, the grand

slam was foolproof.

ARAB NEWS CALENDAR

PRAYER TIMES

	Wednesday	Fajr	Ishraq	Dhuhr	Asr	Maghreb	Isha
Mecca	5:31	6:49	12:40	4:02	6:27	7:57	
Medina	5:34	6:50	12:43	4:02	6:26	7:56	
Nejd	5:01	5:22	12:11	3:29	5:54	7:24	

DHAHRAN TV

4:30 Children's Show	Sesame Street No. 1217
5:49 The Champions	Shadow of the Panther
6:35 More & Mindy	Mork's Seduction
7:04 Colditz	Liberation
7:55 Starsky & Hutch	I love you, Rosie Malone
8:41 Ghost Stories	House of evil
9:28 Famous Film Theater	Kit Carson

PHARMACIES

(Open Wednesday Night)

JEDDAH	Khaled Ibn Walid Pharmacy	Khaled Ibn Walid St.	Tel. 610188
MECCA	Al-Ahli Pharmacy	King Abdul Aziz St.	22689
RIYADH	Al-Ahli Pharmacy	Al-Ma'abdh	47169
AL-BAH	Fahmi Pharmacy	Ajlyad	28059
AL-BAH	Abeer Pharmacy	Nasseriah St.	
AL-BAH	Al-Khaleej Pharmacy	Entry to Salehiah Main St.	
AL-BAH	Al-Salamah Pharmacy	Ministers' Enclave	
AL-BAH	Al-Filal Pharmacy	King's St.	
AL-BAH	Wael Pharmacy	Behind King's Hospital	
AL-BAH	DAMAM	Dhahran Road	21455
AL-BAH	Osamah Pharmacy	King Khaled St.	424661
AL-BAH	AL-KHOBAR	Municipality St.	34419
AL-BAH	Al-Wafa Drug Store		
AL-BAH	HOEUF		
AL-BAH	Al-Najah Drug Store		

SAUDI RADIO

On FM at 98 Megahertz in 3.2 meter band
On SW at 11.855 Mhz in 25 meter band
On MW at 1485 Kiloherzt in 202 meter band

WEDNESDAY

Afternoon Transmission

2:00 Opening

2:01 Holy Quran

2:05 Gems of Guidance

2:10 Key to their success

2:20 On Islam

2:30 round and about

3:00 NEWS

3:10 Press Review

3:15 Music

3:20 Science Journal

3:30 A Selection of Music

3:40

3:50 Closedown

Evening Transmission

9:00 Opening

9:01 Holy Quran

9:05 Gems of Guidance

9:10 Light Music

9:15 Top of the Pops

9:45 Companions of the Prophet

10:00 A viewpoint

10:10 Music

10:15 NEWS

10:25 S.A.—A Daily Chronicle

10:30 Sound Sweet and Strange

11:00 A Leaf from Life's Notebook

11:10 Music

11:15 Sound Latin

11:45 On Islam

12:00 Concert Choice

12:45 A Rendezvous with Dreams

01:00 Closedown

VOA

P.M.

8:00 News Roundup

Reports: Actualities

Opinion: Analyses

8:30 Dateline

News Summary

Special English: News

Feature: The Making of a Nation

News Summary

9:30 Music USA

(Standards)

10:00 News Roundup

Reports: Actualities

Opinion: Analyses



Another first for Britain

Robin Cousins, wearing his gold medal for figure skating at left, gasps as the crowd roars and, at right, meets the press with his mother.



Ingemar Stenmark of Sweden takes the slalom course on his way to his second gold medal.



Phil Mahre of the USA takes a sharp turn at the end of the course to win the silver medal.



Queen Silvia of Sweden (at left) came to watch Ingemar Stenmark compete, (below). Austria's Christian Orlainsky falls and is eliminated (right).



Iranian torture victims testify

Admiral arrested

NEW YORK, Feb. 26 (Agencies) — Iran's navy commander has been arrested for alleged close links with the "U.S. spies" at the occupied American embassy in Tehran, the Iranian government newspaper reported Tuesday.

The U.N. investigating panel on Iran heard testimony from Iranians about the former Shah's alleged misdeeds, and President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr appeared at the U.S. embassy wall to demonstrate solidarity with the young militants holding the American hostages.

The arrest of Admiral Mahmoud Alavi, first reported Monday without explanation, was based on documents found in the embassy, the *Islamic Republic* newspaper said. It was the third time since the embassy takeover that documents found by the militants in the U.S. embassy have led to the arrest of an Iranian official.

Tuesday was the 115th day of captivity for the 50 or so American hostages at the embassy. There were no new developments reported that would indicate the hostages would be freed any earlier than April, the time mentioned by revolutionary leader Ayatollah Khomeini.

The *Islamic Republic*, quoting unnamed reliable sources, said the navy commander was arrested for his "close links and friendly relations with the U.S. spies held in the U.S. embassy."

"Documents have been found about Admiral Alavi in the U.S. spy nest," the newspaper said, Iranian revolutionaries condemned the U.S. embassy as a "spy nest."

The paper said Alavi had been in contact with agents of the previous government of the Shah and had helped many of them escape. There was no further detail on the allegations against Alavi. Spokesmen for the embassy militants declined to comment on the case.

Twice before the militants have published documents purported to link government officials with the United States or the Shah. In November, they engineered the arrest of a former spokesman for the revolutionary government, Amir Abbas Entezam, for alleged connections with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. Three weeks ago, the national information minister, Nasser Minachi, was arrested on the basis of embassy documents for his alleged CIA links.

Some 200 or so Iranians lined up in the snow in Tehran to give evidence to the United Nations commission on the alleged crimes of the Shah. Many said they spent years in the Shah's prisons.

Others carried pictures of their sons and daughters who died, they said, protesting against the Shah's regime, beaten to death in jail or gunned down in street demonstrations.

Troops, police fortify cities as Rhodesians vote today

SALISBURY, Feb. 26 (Agencies) — Salisbury and other Rhodesian cities have been turned into armed fortresses in an attempt to prevent violence in the country's three-day independence elections which start Wednesday.

Trucksloads of troops are being ferried around the streets, roadblocks ring the outer suburbs and armed policemen patrol central shopping areas.

It is the final attempt by Rhodesia's administrators to ensure that the elections will be free and fair — a primary objective of last December's London agreement on Rhodesia which brought the seven-year guerrilla war to an end.

British governor Lord Soames Monday banned all political meetings from the time the polls open tomorrow until after the results have been declared.

Soames was to give an election-eve address to the nation on radio and television Tuesday night and was expected to assure voters that they will be casting their ballots in total secrecy and to urge all parties to refrain from intimidation.

Political leaders of all nine parties contesting the elections were to be given two minutes each of radio time Tuesday night for their final attempts to secure votes.

The election results are not expected to be known until a week from Wednesday.

Meanwhile, Robert Mugabe, guerrilla leader and top contender in the elections, has demanded the British government restrain Soames.

In a letter to British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, Mugabe accused Soames of flagrant violations of the London agreement.

He said between 6,000 and 7,000 South African troops remained in Rhodesia despite assurances of their withdrawal, and said: "Is this in preparation for military action aimed at overthrowing the government we intend to form following our certain election victory?"

In his seven-page letter to Carrington, Mugabe said Soames had ordered general deployment of all Rhodesian regular troops, all the so-called auxiliaries — black militiamen loyal to outgoing Premier Bishop Abel Muzorewa — the entire reserve force, the air force and South African troops.

"In these circumstances of the flagrant violation of the agreement by your side, you cannot expect us to accept any further burden in upholding our side of a deal you have deliberately chosen to destroy," Mugabe

"We lived near 24th Esfand Square. In November 1978, when there were demonstrations outside, some soldiers burst into our house and shot my son," said one man, his eyes red with tears at the memory.

"I was arrested for possessing a photograph of Imam Khomeini. In prison the secret police attached electrodes to my testicles and tortured me," said a 23-year-old business graduate.

A university lecturer came to tell the five-man U.N. panel of lawyers and diplomats about his nephew, who he said was shot dead during a sit-in at the Higher Education Ministry on Dec. 25, 1978.

"Three or four people were killed by the army during that occupation and some 150 were injured," the lecturer said, adding that he had presented a booklet to the commission detailing killings by the Savak, the Shah's political police, at Tehran's Polytechnic High School.

Another man pulled up his trousers to reveal long, ugly scars on both legs which he said were the result of being burned with a soldering iron during a spell in prison in the central Iranian city of Isfahan.

"The Savak in Isfahan beat me so badly on the head that I lost my hearing in one ear and I cannot see straight," said a thin youth, waving a medical report describing his condition when he was released from jail in October 1978.

One young Turkoman man said he had his right hand shot off during a demonstration in the holy city of Qom and his left hand was severely mutilated when he fell, wounded, into a heap of burning tires.

"I was a private in the army and I deserted when they ordered me to fire at a demonstration," said a young man with scars on his shaven skull and neck.

"I was put in Evin Prison in Tehran, where the Savak was torturing people. I tried to escape and was shot through the head," he said.

Two men, their faces mutilated atrociously, said their eyes were poked out during lengthy torture sessions in prison, one in Tehran's Qasr jail and the other in Isfahan.

An old man said his son disappeared without trace three years before the revolution after taking part in an anti-Shah demonstration at Tehran University.

"I only found out he was dead after the revolution. He was killed in prison and I was told about his death by other prisoners who survived," he said.

One woman, showing a picture of her son she said was shot by soldiers during a demonstration in the last days of the revolution, declared: "We want the Shah back to be executed. We lived in hovels while the Shah and his family lived in luxurious palaces."

wrote.

He said: "The governor has thus no remaining right, legal or moral, to insist that my men remain in (cease-fire) assembly places." Nevertheless, Mugabe said, he would keep his men there as a moral duty to avoid further conflict.

He demanded immediate withdrawal of all South African troops, disbandment of the "notorious Selous Scouts, mercenaries and auxiliary forces all of which are the main cause of intimidation and suffering" and the disengagement of Rhodesian regular troops.

"I trust you will bring your influence to bear upon the governor so that he does not proceed to exercise the excessive powers he has given himself."

Supporting Mugabe's charges of intimidation of black voters by the security forces and auxiliaries was a confidential report to the 82-member Commonwealth observer group, drawn from 11 nations.

The report from the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace — a hard-hitting civil liberties group — was marked confidential. But Commonwealth sources said the dossier listed numerous incidents of intimidation and also urged Soames to confine the estimated 25,000 auxiliaries to base.

Accusing Britain's administration of being either biased or misinformed, the commission charged it with trying to "justify the unjustifiable."

The report listed 14 specific cases in which it said auxiliaries or Rhodesian regulars had killed, tortured, beaten or robbed blacks in an effort to dissuade them from voting for either of the guerrilla-backed parties.

In Dar Es Salaam, leaders of the five African "front-line" states backing the Patriotic Front were due to start a summit Tuesday on what they see as a brewing crisis.

"The one item on the agenda will be Rhodesia," said a spokesman at state house, the government center of Tanzania.

The five meet at a time, he said, when there is mounting concern over Britain's failure to mount free and fair elections in Rhodesia.

Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere is chairman of the five-nation group that includes Angola, Botswana, Mozambique and Zambia. He said Monday that a loss by the Patriotic Front would be due to British election-rigging, because the guerrillas have the overwhelming support of the majority of Rhodesians.



GUNMAN SHOT : These pictures by Los Angeles Times photographer Mike Meadows record the outcome of a bank heist in Redondo Beach, California. In the top photo an unidentified gunman holds a pistol to a man's back after robbing a bank and killing a teller. He keeps other hostages ringed about to protect himself from the police officer crouched behind a parked car. In the second photo the policeman springs up, the gunman drops and his captives scatter as the policeman fires. The gunman and one hostage were hurt in the incident.

In New Hampshire

Acid test balloting begins

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire, Feb. 26 (R) — Voting has begun in the "weather-vane" U.S. primary elections in New Hampshire — a contest that could decide whether the last of the Kennedy brothers has any hope of becoming president.

For almost 30 years every U.S. leader has won his party's New Hampshire primary before going on to be selected a presidential candidate and then elected to serve in the White House.

Because of this, the elections have attracted a torrent of publicity totally disproportionate to the size of this tiny New England state.

Senator Edward Kennedy, fighting the battle of his political life, made a final desperate attempt to win votes last night by comparing his position in opinion polls to the underdog U.S. ice hockey team which defeated the Soviet Union in the winter Olympics last week.

The senator, who is trailing far behind President Jimmy Carter in the polls, told an election meeting: "I'm glad to be the underdog. Just remember the U.S. hockey team. They were the underdog and they pulled it

out, and we're going to do the same thing tomorrow."

Even if he suffers a heavy loss Tuesday, Kennedy is not expected to drop out of the presidential race. He can look forward to a better showing next week in his home state, Massachusetts.

But the consensus in political circles is that a bad showing in New Hampshire, in what was once indisputable Kennedy country could prove the beginning of the end for his candidacy.

Carter, preoccupied by the Afghan crisis and the plight of the U.S. embassy hostages in Tehran, has not even set foot in New Hampshire to campaign personally.

According to the polls, the president's dedication to the task in hand has been decisive and he is widely expected to emerge the Democratic party's victor.

In the state's Republican primary, front-runners George Bush and Ronald Reagan were neck and neck.

The polls opened at midnight and were to close at 8 p.m. local time. Voting trends were expected to begin emerging an hour or two after the polls close.



ELECTION SECURITY : As Rhodesia's election draws near, a soldier stands guard at the country's main broadcasting station. Army units are positioned at key installations in and around cities in the event of trouble during balloting which starts Wednesday.

Gold rebounds on world markets

LONDON, Feb. 26 (AP) — Gold prices rebounded and the dollar slipped lower on world financial markets Wednesday.

Gold sold for \$ 641.50 a troy ounce in London and Zurich mid-morning up from Monday's closing \$ 632.50 in London and \$ 618.50 in the Swiss center. The metal had fallen \$ 30 to \$ 40 an ounce in the past week.

The recovery began overnight, with gold closing up \$ 6.02 in Hong Kong at \$ 631.39.

Silver also rose to \$ 34.43 an ounce in London, from Monday's \$ 32.375.

Dealers said every time gold has climbed towards \$ 600 this month, buyers have emerged.

"We've seen big semi-professionals buying around the \$ 600 level," one Swiss dealer noted.

There was still no sign, however, of a bul-

lion surge like that in January when gold touched an all-time peak \$ 875 in New York as the world trembled from the Afghanistan and Iranian crises.

Foreign exchange dealers reported profit-taking against the dollar following the U.S. currency's recent firmness, but one banker predicted it would be short-lived. "It's too expensive to be short dollars."

In Tokyo, the dollar hit a high for the year during trading — 294 yen — but later slipped back to close at 248.375 yen, from Monday's 247.95, after Japanese authorities increased reserve requirements for private banks, in effect raising interest rates in an effort to protect the yen.

The Japanese currency has lost 20 per cent of its value against the dollar in the last six months because of Japan's mounting oil import bills.

Tito weaker from heart, lung troubles

BELGRADE, Feb. 26 (R) — President Josip Broz Tito's already grave condition has deteriorated, with his weakened heart showing increasing disturbances and pneumonia persisting, his doctor said Tuesday.

A medical bulletin said that the attack of pneumonia which the 87-year-old leader suffered about a week ago, showed no signs of abating despite intensive treatment.

But official sources said that the state of Tito's heart was the decisive factor in his struggle for survival, and they described as slim his chances of holding out for long.

The bulletin was issued by the president's panel of eight medical professors at the ultra-modern clinical center in the northern city of Ljubljana. His left leg was amputated there on Jan. 20 after the failure of a bypass operation to clear an artery blockage, and the onset of gangrene.

The bulletin, the gloomiest so far, said: "The general state of health of the President of the Republic Josip Broz Tito is still grave. Despite the implementation of appropriate intensive therapy, the pneumonia is not abating."

"Disturbances of the heart rhythm are appearing more and more frequently, and the signs of heart weakness are persisting."

The doctors gave no further details, but they said last week that he was attached to a dialysis machine which supports the kidney functions by filtering toxic and unwanted substances from the bloodstream.

But medical sources said the worsening of the president's heart was clearly a very ominous sign, since its condition was a key factor in the use of life support systems which would be applied to other vital organs to keep him alive.

Gandhi party wins in India

NEW DELHI, Feb. 26 (R) — Indian Premier Indira Gandhi's Congress party Tuesday showed its standing with the voters was undiminished winning four out of five parliamentary by-elections.

Her party won the first three seats to be declared Monday and Tuesday added a fourth victory at the Kheon constituency in eastern Orissa state, where Congress candidate Harihar Soren won by 85,048 votes.

The only defeat for congress came in the Marxist stronghold of West Bengal where Dinen Bhattacharya of the Marxist Communist party of India defeated his Congress opponent by a huge margin of 106,126 votes.

The results boded little hope of success for the opposition Janata party of Jagjivan Ram and the Lok Dal (People's party) of former Premier Charan Singh in the coming important assembly elections in nine states.

After fighting last month's national elections on their own and suffering a trouncing by Congress, the opposition agreed on common candidates for the by-elections.

But their strategy failed to dent the powerful grip of Mrs. Gandhi's party, which has a two-third majority with its allies in the Lok Sabha (Lower House) of Parliament and is now setting about taking over the state assemblies.

Among the victorious by-election candidate was one of Mrs. Gandhi's chief supporters former Congress parliamentary leader C.M. Stephen, who won by more than 73,000 votes in southern Karnataka state.

Stephen, tipped as a possible minister, said his victory showed the people's resolve to strengthen the hand of Mrs. Gandhi.

Senegal to urge break with Israel, president says

DAKAR, Feb. 26 (SPA) — Senegal President Leopold Senghor said that his country will not resume diplomatic relations with the Zionist state of Israel. He said that he will do his best to persuade other African leaders to follow the same course.

The Senegalese president, who met Tuesday with a ministerial delegation from the Arab World League headed by United Arab Emirates Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashed Abdulla, called for a strengthening of Arab-African cooperation at all levels.

The president reaffirmed his belief that there will be no permanent peace in the Middle East unless the Palestinian peoples enjoy their right of self-determination and Israel withdraws completely from Arab occupied territories.

Arab university in India opened

NEW DELHI, Feb. 26 (SPA) — The Imam of the Holy Haram in Mecca Sheikh Muhammad Ibn Sabli Tuesday laid the foundation stone of the Arab University in Shahabad — an extension of Al-Salafeya Arab University in the old city of Faranas in Uttar Pradesh. The new university complex will cost 20 million Indian rupees and include a mosque, a student hostel, and a hospital.

Good Morning

By Jihad Khazen

Ashary Al Awsat's mail-bag is always full of exchanges on the woman question — mainly on the question of whether women should be confined to motherhood or allowed to take a full independent part in the life of the community.

This column, some readers must have noted, has in its own subdued way always stood firmly behind the liberationists, although, as a result of a recent development its confidence has been somewhat dented.

But do not fear enlightened reader, or jubilate prematurely conservative one. Our resolution is not shaken, only our previous conviction that we spoke for a wider constituency than actually was the case. For the fact of the matter, as it was pointed out by a friend, is that the attitudes we subscribe to do not apply to all of the Arabs of the north (Jordan, Syria, Lebanon) but only to the town dwellers among them — and not to all of these at that.

The countryside, my kind critic said, differs in no way from those countries where the woman question is just being raised. The attitudes we advocate are therefore a matter for a minority, whatever or the irate ladies who wrote in advocating women's liberation might think.

In proof, my friend presented me with a slim volume by the author Salam al Rasi, detailing some of the attitudes towards woman he found in the countryside "up north." Mr. al Rasi's work is as charming as it is informative. His method is mostly direct quotations from the people themselves.

Whatever one might think of the attitudes these country folk express, he is bound to admire the zestful way in which they put them. There was this village sage — a certain old Abu Yusuf — who admonished his son: "A loose woman, my boy, is like garlic: wonderful to taste — but then the lingering stink." Or, "Women are like quince: A hiccup in every bite."

Translated from Ashary Al Awsat

Soldiers control Surinam after lightning coup

THE HAGUE, Feb. 26 (Agencies) — Rebel soldiers Tuesday appeared to have taken firm control of the former Dutch colony of Surinam after staging a lightning military coup, according to reports reaching the Netherlands.

But, it was not clear how long the junior officers who staged the coup Monday intended to stay in control of the South American country, whose economy is heavily dependent on its former colonial master.

The Dutch News Agency ANP said at least six people were killed in fighting triggered by the Surinam government's refusal to allow the formation of a soldiers' trade union.

Dutch officials said late Monday night that the Surinamese capital of Paramaribo was calm although the arms officers, who have set up an organization calling itself the national military council, had imposed a dusk-to-dawn curfew.

The Venezuelan state news agency reported from Caracas Monday night that Henk Arron, premier since late 1973, was still in the parliament building in Paramaribo but this was later denied by the Surinam News Agency in a dispatch carried by ANP.

The Surinam agency said Arron, who had called premature general elections for March 27, was not in the capital but gave no further details.

There has been widespread disappointment in Surinam, the former colony of Dutch Guyana on the north-east shoulder of South America about progress since independence five years ago.

It is still struggling with severe economic problems and is heavily reliant on development aid from the Netherlands. Since 1975 there has been a continuing exodus from Surinam to the Netherlands where more than 150,000 Surinamese now live compared with just over 300,000 in their homeland. The country has huge bauxite deposits.

Arron's government has also had to steer a delicate course because of ethnic differences between the country's Hindustanis and Creoles.

The population is divided into five racial groups, including 142,000 Hindustanis, 118,500 Creoles of mostly African ancestry, and 58,900 Javanese descendants of indentured laborers.

Surinam, with an area of about 168,000 square kilometers, is flanked by Guyana on the west and French Guiana on the east.